Distr.
GENERAL

UNCTAD/COM/85
15 April 1996

ENGLISH ONLY

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMODITIES:

PRINCIPAL PRODUCERS, EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS

Statistical Compilation by the UNCTAD Secretariat

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

GE.96-50968

CONTENTS

Page

FOOD PRODUCTS

Bananas 3
Green and Roasted Coffee 5
Cocoa Beans 7
Tea 9
Rice 11
Sugar 13
Wine 15
Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds 17

AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIALS

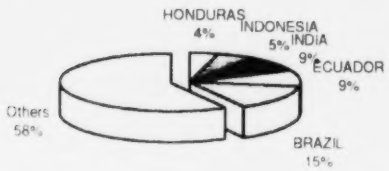
Jute Products 19
Natural Rubber 21
Cotton Lint 23
Tobacco Leaves 25

MINERALS AND METALS

Bauxite 27
Copper Ore 29
Iron Ore 31
Lead Ore 33
Manganese Ore 35
Nickel Ore 37
Phosphate Rock 39
Tin Metal 41
Zinc Ore 43

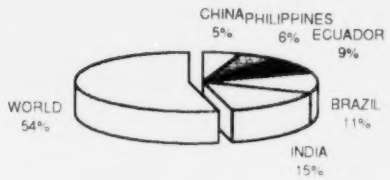
BANANAS

% Share of Principal Banana Producers, 1970



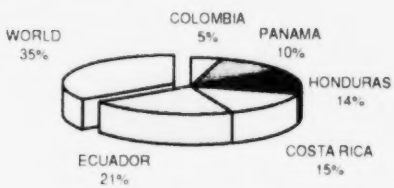
Total World Production: 32.95 mn MT

% Share of Principal Banana Producers, 1993



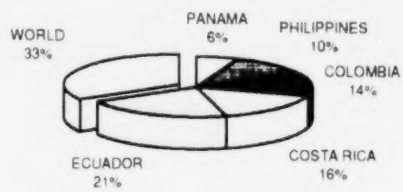
Total World Production: 51.33 mn MT

% Share of Principal Banana Exporters, 1970



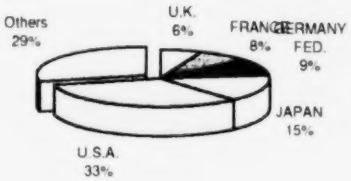
Total World Export: 5.80 mn MT

% Share of Principal Banana Exporters, 1993



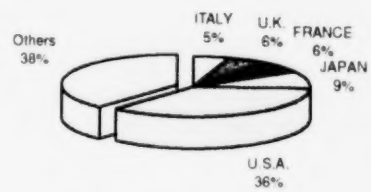
Total World Export: 11.57 mn MT

% Share of Principal Banana Importers, 1970

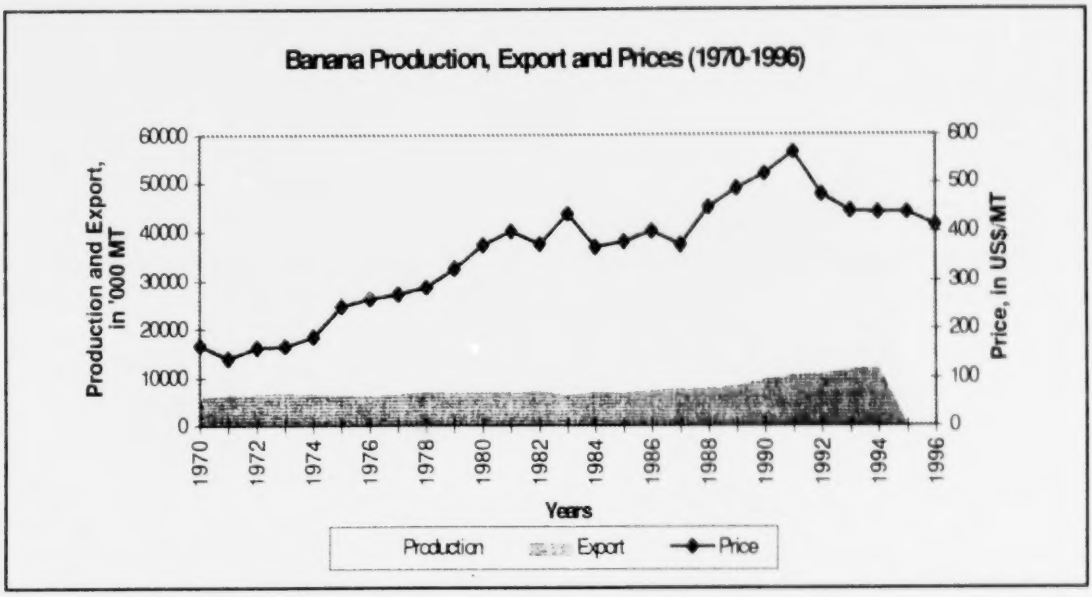


Total World Import: 5.57 mn MT

% Share of Principal Banana Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 10.19 mn MT



Bananas

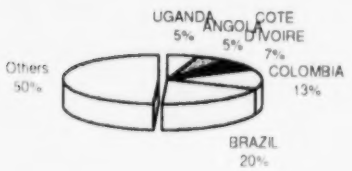
Since 1970, the annual growth rate of world banana **production** barely averaged 1 per cent. While the group of major pool of producing countries have remained basically unchanged, certain traditional banana producers like Honduras have decreased production. One new-comer in banana production which has entered the rank of top five producers since the mid-1980s is China, for which production growth between 1980-1994 is estimated at 13 per cent per annum. In terms of volume output, India remains the world's top banana producer even though its production growth at an annual average of 1.8 per cent since 1970, is just slightly over the world average. Bananas have, however, become an important food crop in that country, fourth in gross value only after paddy rice, wheat and milk and second only to mangoes in volume.

The **export** market is dominated by Central and South American countries including Ecuador, Costa Rica and Panama. Colombia is also an important banana supplier from the region, while the Philippines provides principally for demand in Asia. As of 1993, these five countries as a group represented 70 per cent of the banana market. On the demand side, the United States is the major importer (almost 40 per cent of the total volume of the world's banana **import**). Japan comes a distant second with approximately 10 per cent. The United Kingdom, where bananas are the second most popular fruit after apples, ranked third followed by France and Italy.

Thus far, **production** and **consumption** levels seem to have grown slowly but steadily in tandem, with the **price** movements also rising but in a relatively more erratic fashion. These trends are expected to change with current trade developments; since the introduction of EU quotas and tariffs in 1993, banana prices in German supermarkets have risen 70 per cent, cutting banana consumption by almost a third.

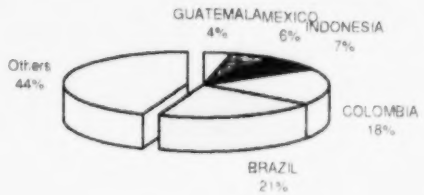
GREEN AND ROASTED COFFEE

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Producers, 1970



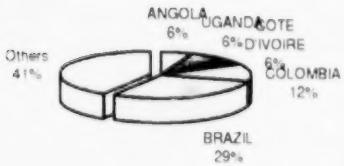
Total World Production: 3.84 mn MT

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Producers, 1993



Total World Production: 5.98 mn MT

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Exporters, 1970

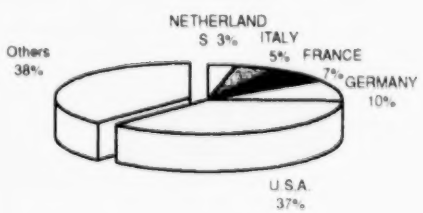


Total World Export: 3.28 mn MT

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Exporters, 1993

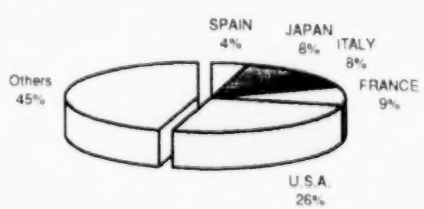
Total World Export: 4.90 mn

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Importers, 1970

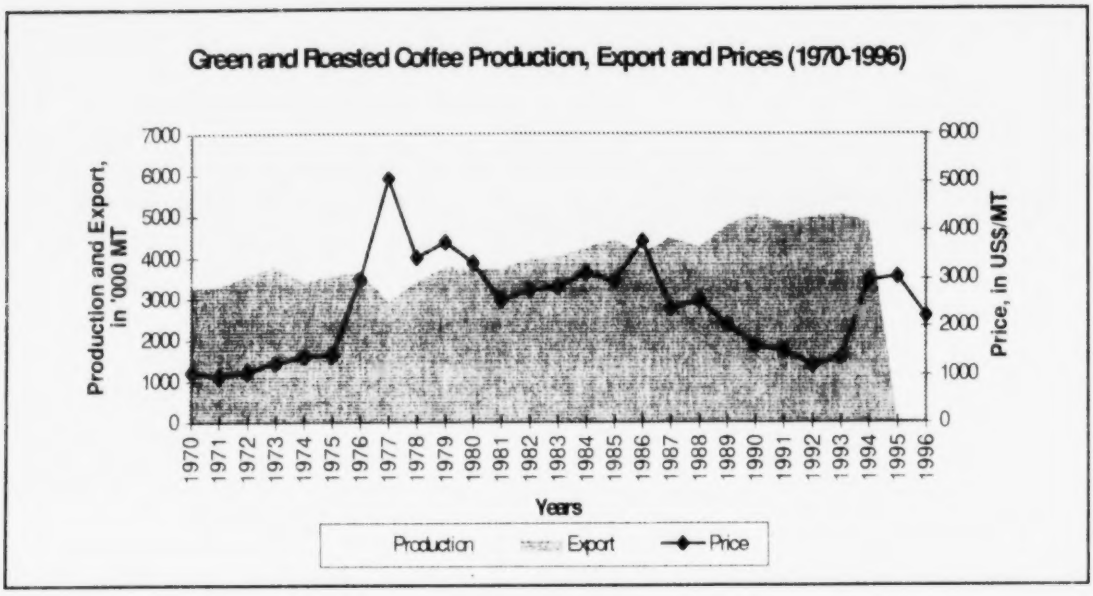


Total World Import: 3.25 mn MT

% Share of Principal Green and Roasted Coffee Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 4.17 mn MT



Coffee

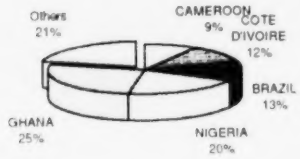
Brazil and Colombia are the world's main coffee **producers**. Indonesia joined the main producers group in the late 1970s . Côte d'ivoire still ranks among the world's principal coffee **exporters** and, as in other several coffee producing countries, has adopted market liberalization policies. Under its new system enforceable fixed producer prices are eliminated and export rights allocated through auctions. In Kenya, for which export volume is not significant at the world level but which nevertheless is a major player in the region, some 80 per cent of coffee producers opted out of the "pool system" in favor of a moving coffee price. Liberalization has also broken widened competition to include private milling firms, forcing once monopolistic coffee processing entities to lower milling charges and improve service.

Between 1970 and 1993, the share of the world's principal coffee **importer**, the United States, fell from 37 per cent to 26 per cent. During this period US imports have been declining at an annual average of 0.2 per cent, a decline that seems to have accelerated to 1.2 per cent per year during the last three years. Accordingly, world coffee imports have shown very sluggish growth averaging 0.4 per cent during the 23-year period and a -3.0 per cent contraction per year between 1990-93. The International Coffee Organization reported coffee use in the major consuming countries at 59.54 million bags for 1994, down from 61.74 million bags in 1993 and 60.61 in 1992. Significant declines were experienced in Germany (6.0 per cent), the Netherlands (10.9 per cent) and the US (4.2 per cent). Japanese import seem comparatively robust at an average annual growth of 3 per cent from 1970 to 1993. The slowdown in coffee consumption has been attributed to market factors such as increased competition from other beverages and saturation of existing consumer groups, as well as demographic factors such as ageing population in the principal importing and consuming countries. Increased usage in developing countries and Central and East European economies is not expected to materialize in the near future. On the other hand, costs are expected to increase on the supply side as wages rise in the low-cost Asian producers. Other factors adding to costs include disease and pest control, and improved processing and storage facilities. The combination of slower consumption growth with increased production costs could tighten profit margins for producer and exporter countries. Price prospects for coffee remains fraught with uncertainty.

7

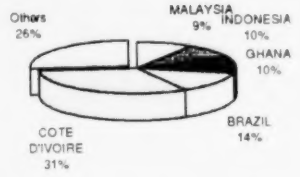
COCOA BEANS

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Producers, 1970



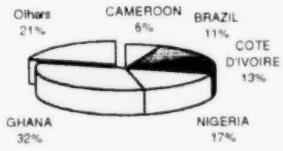
Total World Production: 1.54 mn MT

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Producers, 1993



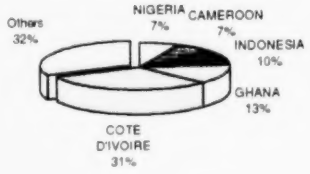
Total World Production: 2.49 mn MT

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Exporters, 1970



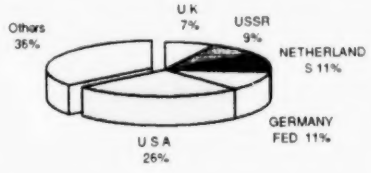
Total World Export: 1.14 mn MT

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Exporters, 1993



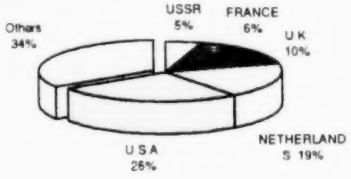
Total World Export: 1.95 mn MT

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Importers, 1970

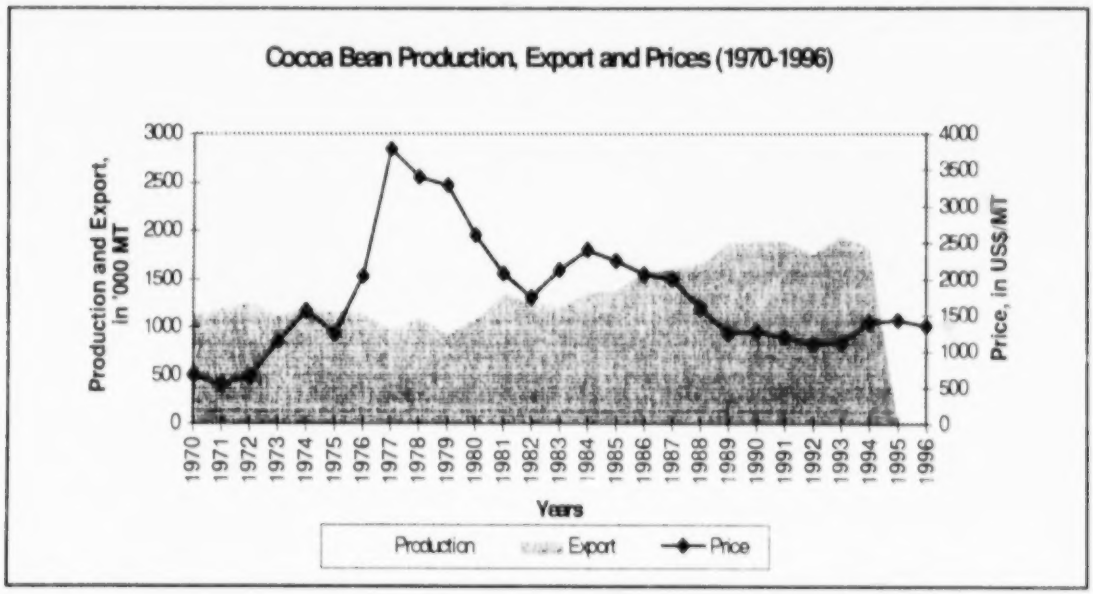


Total World Import: 1.10 mn MT

% Share of Principal Cocoa Bean Importers



Total World Import: 1.57 mn MT



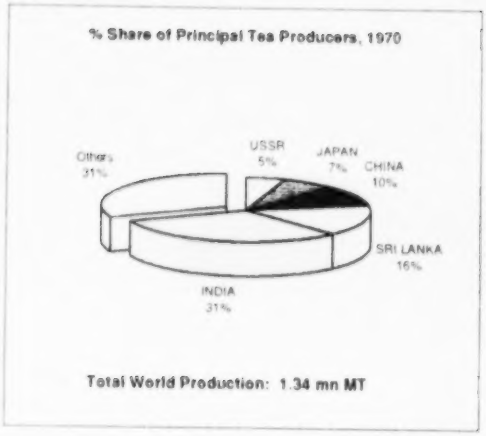
Cocoa

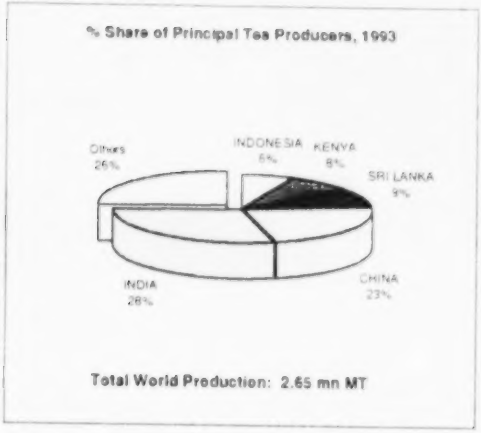
The dominance of African cocoa **producers** in the 1970s has given way to a more varied mix of large-scale producers, notably Brazil in South America and Indonesia and Malaysia in Asia. As of 1994, about 75 per cent of the world's cocoa originated from Côte d'ivoire, Brazil, Ghana, Indonesia and Malaysia. This pool makes up the main composition of the principal cocoa **exporters**, except for the entry of Nigeria with Brazil having moved down to seventh place.

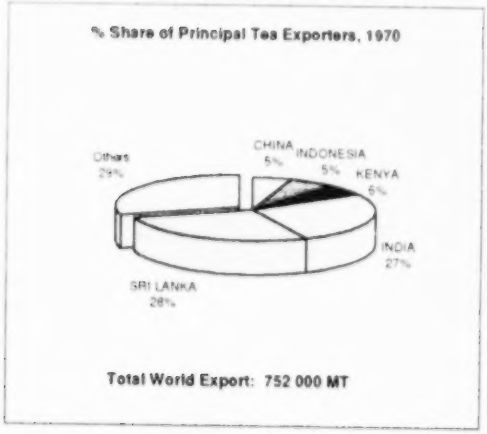
Almost 30 per cent of the world's cocoa exports go to the United States alone. The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, France and Belgium together take up another 45 per cent. These principal cocoa **importers** as a group have increased their share in the world trade from about half in 1970 to 72 per cent in 1993. Similarly, the world's top cocoa **consumers** are in the temperate region: about 60 per cent of world cocoa is consumed in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, the former Soviet Union and Japan. Rises in temperature has been indicative of lowered cocoa consumption, as happened in Western Europe in the summer of 1994. A comparison of the principal consuming countries' average annual cocoa consumption in 1990-1993 against that of 1980-1983 indicates a contraction for all except France, where consumption grew at 1.07 per cent per annum between 1990-1993 and only 0.66 per cent between 1980-1983. Comparative figures for the United States are 3.72 per cent per annum in 1980-1983 and 1.23 per cent in 1990-93, while estimates for Japan are set at 4.82 per cent in 1980-1983 and 0.22 per cent in 1990-93.

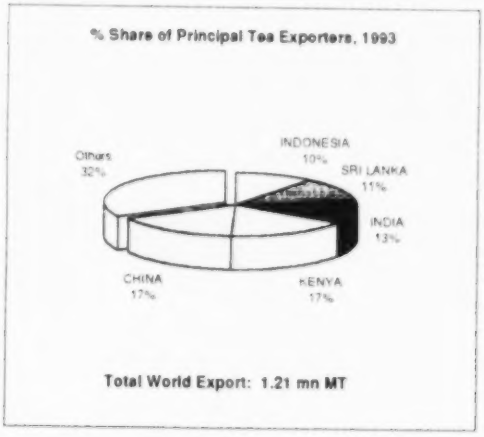
Cocoa **prices** fell about 4 per cent in 1995 and are not expected to recover fully in view of the record bumper crops anticipated in Côte d'ivoire and Ghana where, in addition to mild weather, better price incentives are being offered to farmers and where plantings undertaken in the 1980s in response to price incentives are now coming to fruition. In Côte d'ivoire alone, 1995/1996 crops is espected to reach 1.1 million tonnes. Early projections point to a world net production of over 2.50 million tons, topping the previous record of 2.47 million tons set in 1990/1991. While world grindings are expected to exceed production by 40,000 to 50,000 tons, this deficit would be offset with the addition of the International Cocoa Organization's 50,000-ton buffer stock.

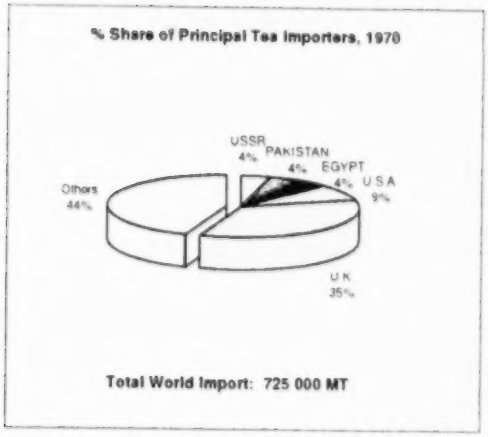
TEA

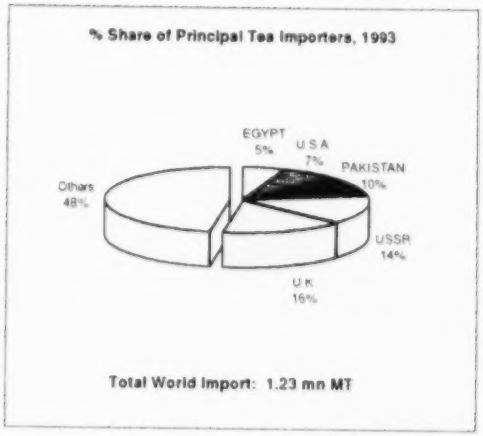

% Share of Principal Tea Producers, 1970
Others 31%
USSR 5%
JAPAN 7%
CHINA 10%
SRI LANKA 16%
INDIA 31%
Total World Production: 1.34 mn MT

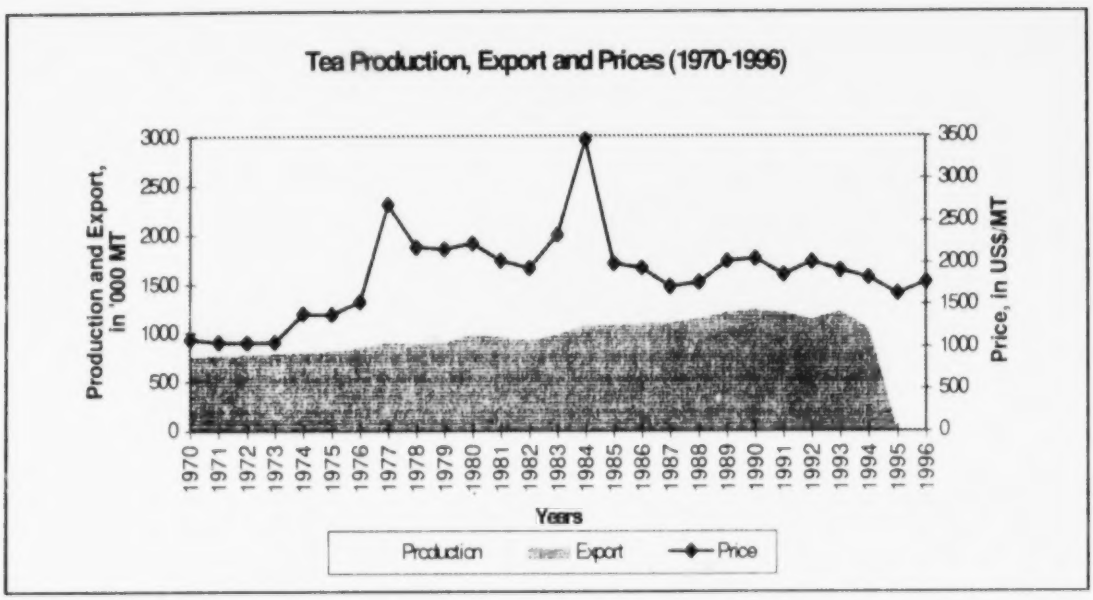

% Share of Principal Tea Producers, 1993
Others 26%
INDONESIA 6%
KENYA 8%
SRI LANKA 9%
INDIA 28%
CHINA 23%
Total World Production: 2.65 mn MT


% Share of Principal Tea Exporters, 1970
Others 29%
CHINA 5%
INDONESIA 5%
KENYA 6%
INDIA 27%
SRI LANKA 28%
Total World Export: 752 000 MT


% Share of Principal Tea Exporters, 1993
Others 32%
INDONESIA 10%
SRI LANKA 11%
INDIA 13%
CHINA 17%
KENYA 17%
Total World Export: 1.21 mn MT


% Share of Principal Tea Importers, 1970
USSR 4%
PAKISTAN 4%
EGYPT 4%
U.S.A 9%
Others 44%
U.K 35%
Total World Import: 725 000 MT


% Share of Principal Tea Importers, 1993
EGYPT 5%
U.S.A 7%
PAKISTAN 10%
Others 48%
USSR 14%
U.K 16%
Total World Import: 1.23 mn MT

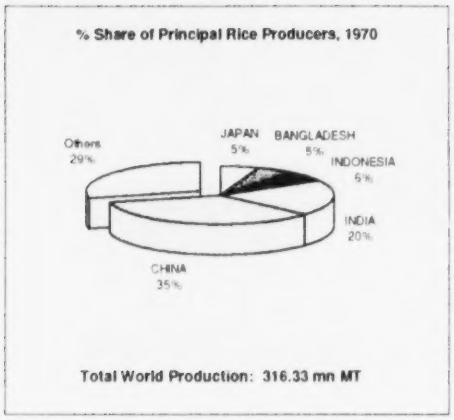


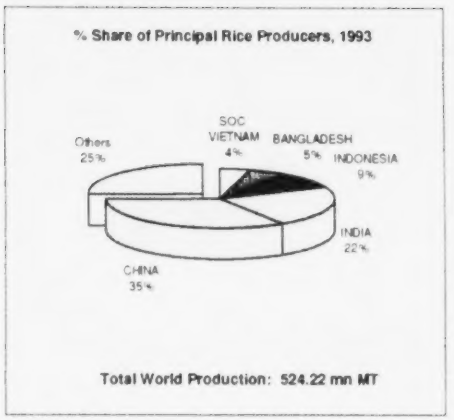
Tea

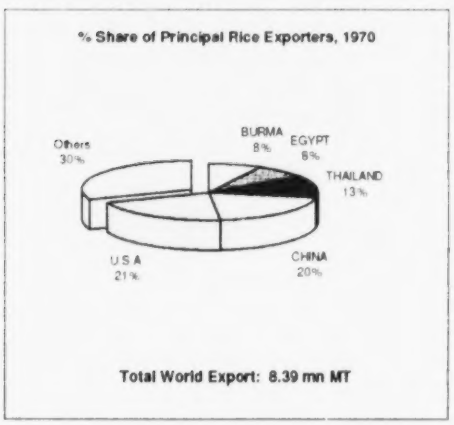
India remains the world's most important tea **producer** ; in 1970 it grew a third of the world's tea. With a 28 per cent share in the world's 1994 output, China has become the second top tea producer in the world. Sri Lanka 's 9 per cent share could well be overtaken by Kenya, for which harvest in recent years has been at record highs. The five principal tea producers are also the world's top tea **exporters**, with China steadily strengthening its market presence while that of India and Sri Lanka is decreasing. At the receiving end, the United Kingdom heads the list of major tea **importers**. Like India, the UK's dominance is being slowly eroded by other important tea importers, specifically Pakistan, the US and Egypt. The countries of the former Soviet Union, which in 1992 accounted 14 per cent, was a close second to the UK's 15 per cent share. The composition and degree of importance of the world's top tea **consumers**, on the other hand, has remained consistent since 1970. In addition to being the world's top tea producer, India is also the world's top tea consumer. China is second to India in the producer and consumer categories, but ranks first as the world's most important tea exporter.

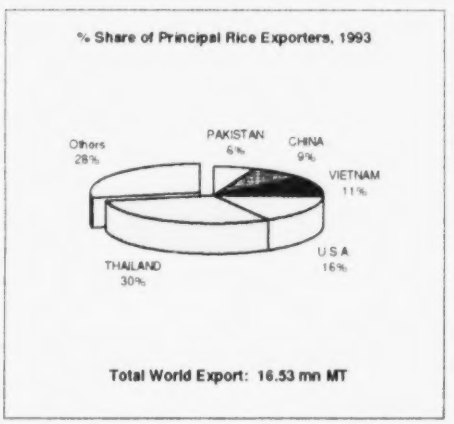
Record low tea **prices** on the London auction in the second half of 1995 were largely attributed to two factors: a record crop in Kenya and a sharp reduction in consumption in Western Europe during the hot summer months. Another attenuating condition was a reduced consumption in Pakistan, for which the volume of tea imports is greater only after the United Kingdom and the former Soviet Union. Another record output, estimated to outpace its 1995 bumper crop by more than 35,000 tons, is expected for Kenya's 1996 harvest. World tea prices might increase on a short-term, seasonal basis, but is expected to remain depressed on a longer-term basis because of ample world output.

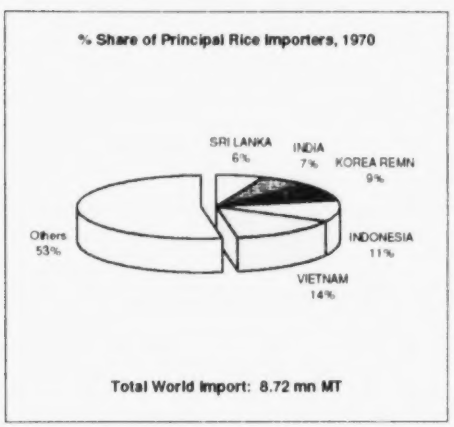
RICE

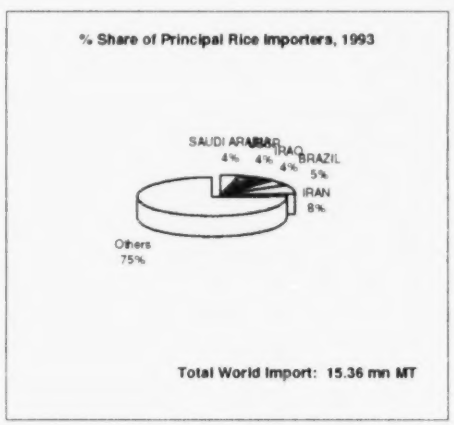

% Share of Principal Rice Producers, 1970
Others 29%
JAPAN 5%
BANGLADESH 5%
INDONESIA 6%
INDIA 20%
CHINA 35%
Total World Production: 316.33 mn MT

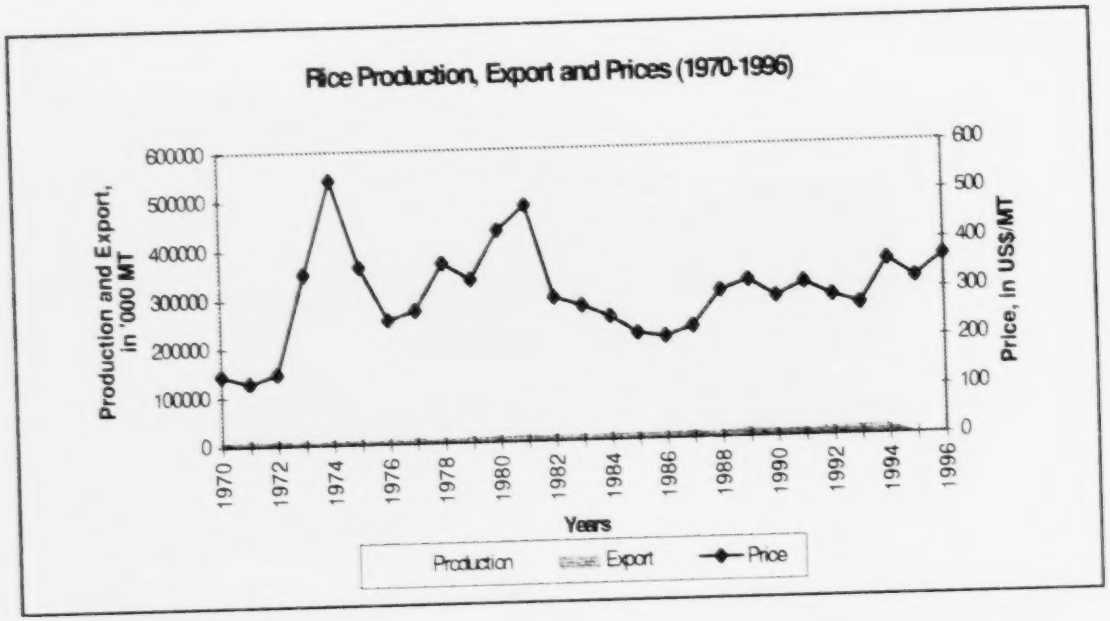

% Share of Principal Rice Producers, 1993
Others 25%
SOC VIETNAM 4%
BANGLADESH 5%
INDONESIA 9%
INDIA 22%
CHINA 35%
Total World Production: 524.22 mn MT


% Share of Principal Rice Exporters, 1970
Others 30%
BURMA 8%
EGYPT 6%
THAILAND 13%
U.S.A 21%
CHINA 20%
Total World Export: 8.39 mn MT


% Share of Principal Rice Exporters, 1993
Others 28%
PAKISTAN 6%
CHINA 9%
VIETNAM 11%
U.S.A 16%
THAILAND 30%
Total World Export: 16.53 mn MT


% Share of Principal Rice Importers, 1970
SRI LANKA 6%
INDIA 7%
KOREA REMN 9%
Others 53%
INDONESIA 11%
VIETNAM 14%
Total World Import: 8.72 mn MT


% Share of Principal Rice Importers, 1993
SAUDI ARABIA 4%
IRAQ 4%
BRAZIL 5%
IRAN 8%
Others 75%
Total World Import: 15.36 mn MT



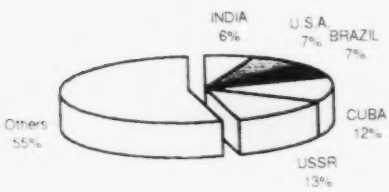
Rice

The roster of principal rice **producers**, including the share in global world production, has changed little over the past twenty-five years except for Japan's replacement by Viet Nam. As a group, these five countries currently grow 76 per cent of the world's rice supply. A time-series comparison of annual growth during the first three years of each decade since 1970 shows that production growth was at its fastest during the 1980-1983 period at an estimated annual rate of 1.81 per cent compared to 0.83 per cent during 1970-1973 and 0.07 per cent during 1990-93. All five major producers follow this pattern. The volume of rice exports displays the reverse pattern, with the 1980-1983 period being a period of contraction for all principal rice **exporters** except Thailand, for which export growth averaged 3.20 per cent per year. At this pace, Thailand definitely overtook the United States as the world's most important rice exporter, a position it has retained since. The mid-1980s also marked the entry of Viet Nam as a principal actor in international rice export market, where it currently ranks third to Thailand and the United States. Unlike rice production and export, rice import market is not dominated by any single country or region. The top five rice **importers** account for only 24 per cent of total world rice imports. They are also geographically more widespread, including countries in western Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Estimated world rice consumption of 365 million tons during 1995/96 exceeds milled rice production estimates by 5 million tons while stocks are expected to fall to 11.8 per cent of consumption, down from the 16 per cent average during the 1980s. High international prices acted as additional incentive. It should be noted that, despite the abundance of low-quality rice, the price spread between the high- and low- quality rice is relatively narrow, with a current 26 per cent margin of premium over low-quality rice compared to an average margin of 49.7 per cent in 1993 and 46.8 per cent in 1994.

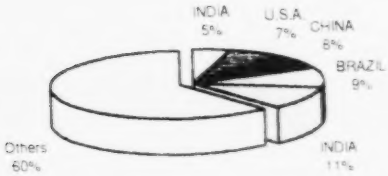
SUGAR

% Share of Principal Sugar Producers, 1970



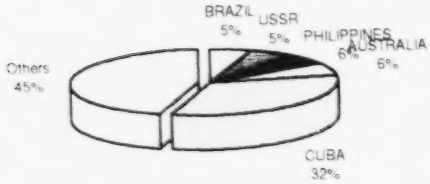
Total World Production: 71.70 mn MT

% Share of Principal Sugar Producers, 1993



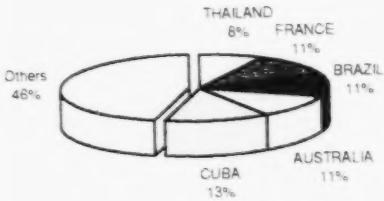
Total World Production: 106.58 mn MT

% Share of Principal Sugar Export, 1970



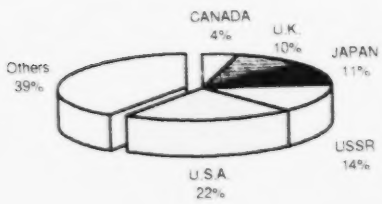
Total World Export: 21.50 mn MT

% Share of Principal Sugar Exporters, 1993



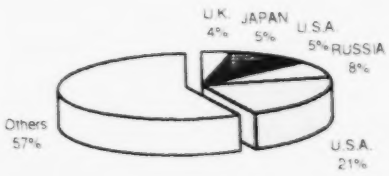
Total World Export: 27.96 mn MT

% Share of Principal Sugar Importers, 1970

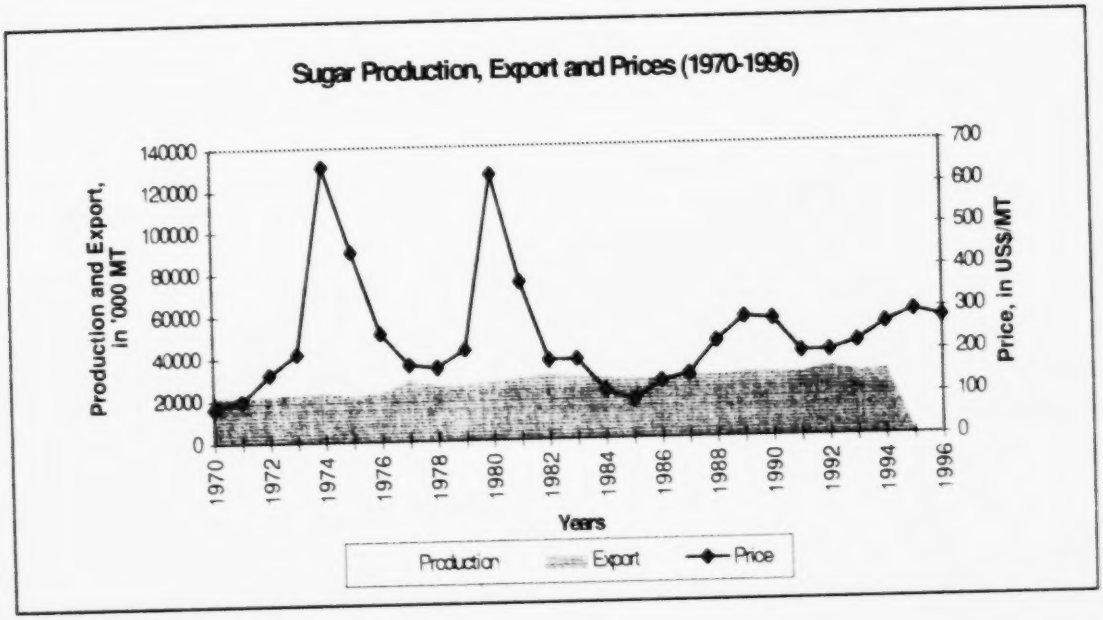


Total World Import: 21.92 mn MT

% Share of Principal Sugar Importers, 1993



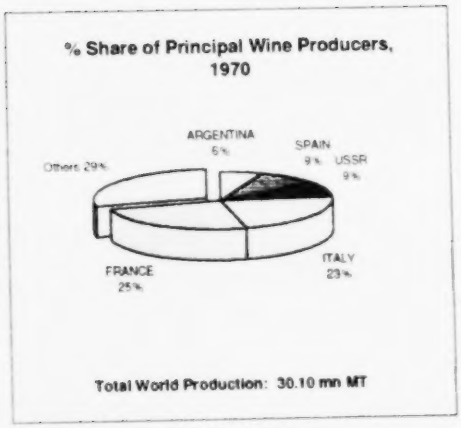
Total World Import: 33.24 mn MT

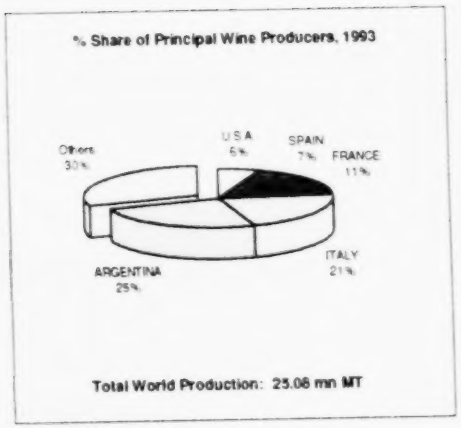


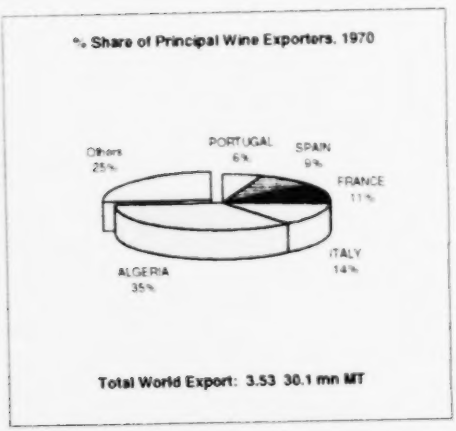
Sugar

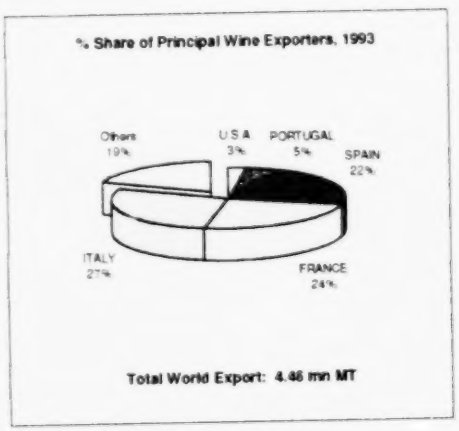
Comparing the rate of growth during the first three years of each decade since 1970, 1980-1983 stands out as the boom years with world sugar production growing at 2.14 per cent per annum. The 1990-93 period, in contrast, shows annual contraction averaging -1.22 per cent. Increased production in the world's most important sugar **producer**, India, at 11.59 per cent a year between 1980-1983 and lowered output during 1990-1993 has had a decided impact on global supply. Contraction in sugar production in Cuba during the 1990-1993 period, at an estimated -9.16 per cent per year, exacerbated the constricting conditions. This condition is offset by the emergence of Ukraine as an important sugar producer with production growth between 1993 and 1994 was estimated at 2.75 per cent and for which volume was large enough for the country to be included in the world's top ten sugar producers. Cuba and Australia are the world's two major sugar **exporters**, followed by Brazil, France and Thailand. In Brazil, a rise in domestic price following tight stock position has made the domestic market more attractive than exporting. Furthermore, a higher proportion of cane is being converted to alcohol for which price has risen by 15-18 per cent. Distilling alcohol rather than refining sugar may become a more attractive option for sugar cane use as the government plans to increase motor fuel prices around 15 per cent to subsidise a further 10 per cent increase in incentive payments to distillers to produce alcohol mixed fuels. At the receiving end, the United States top the list with Japan, United Kingdom, Republic of Korea and Canada as principal **importers**. Beginning 1996/1997 season, the United States increased its import quota for Brazil from 60,000 to 230,000 tonnes. As one of the world's lowest cost producers, Brazil has been selling its sugar at an average 11 cents/lb; the US offer of 18 cents/ lb for its quota sugar is expected to boost Brazil's production by at least 4 per cent in the immediate future. As of 1994, India has taken over both the former Soviet Union and the United States as the world's top sugar **consumer.** In October 1995, Russia renewed its oil-for-sugar deal with Cuba which provides for Russia to ship 10.5 million tons of crude oil to Cuba in exchange for 4 millions tons of sugar over the next three years while in Viet Nam the government had to stop imports because of rising inventory levels. In addition, the 1995/1996 sugar crop year is expected to begin with 34 million tons of sugar in inventory --- the highest level in ten years. Good to bumper yields around the world are likewise expected. These conditions are expected to swamp the steady but feeble growth in worldwide demand, which should drive the **price** prospects downward. With falling prices, consumption is expected to climb to about 2 million tons more than in 1994/1995 to 117 million tons.

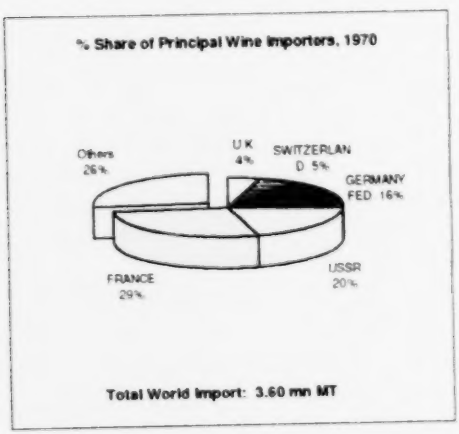
WINE

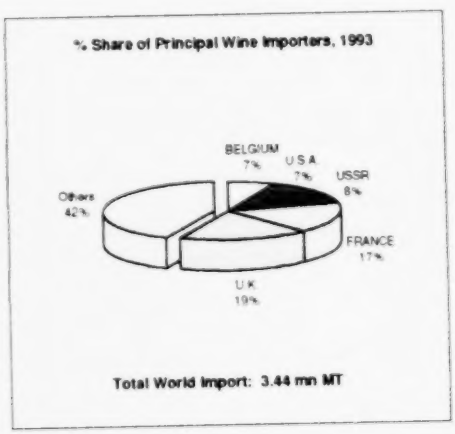

% Share of Principal Wine Producers, 1970
ARGENTINA 6%
SPAIN 9%
USSR 9%
Others 29%
FRANCE 25%
ITALY 23%
Total World Production: 30.10 mn MT

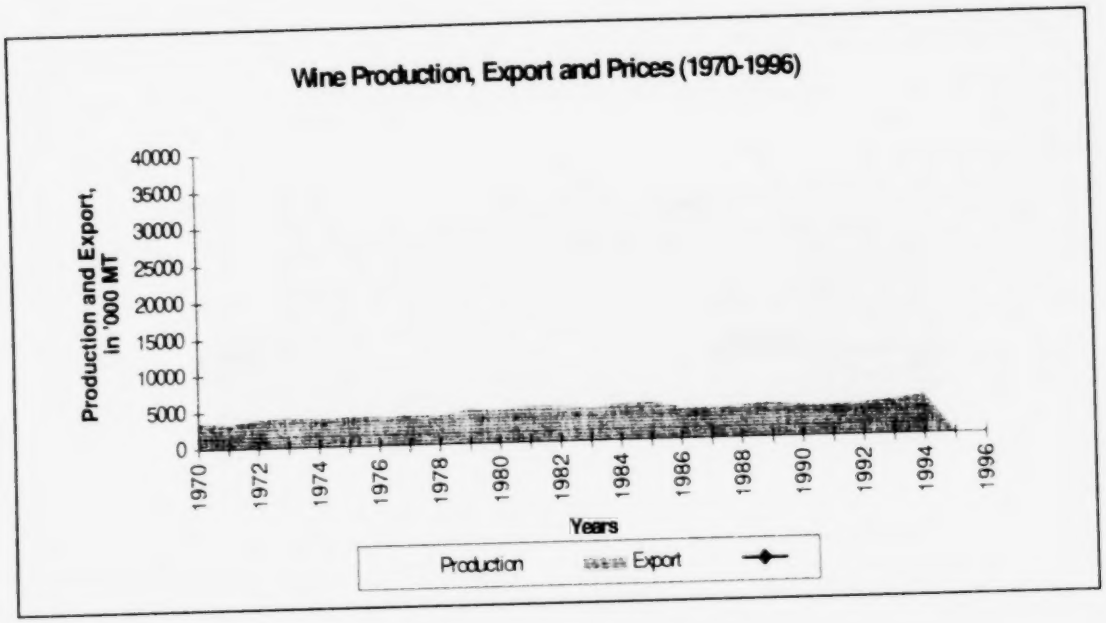

% Share of Principal Wine Producers, 1993
U.S.A 6%
SPAIN 7%
FRANCE 11%
Others 30%
ITALY 21%
ARGENTINA 25%
Total World Production: 25.06 mn MT


% Share of Principal Wine Exporters, 1970
PORTUGAL 6%
SPAIN 9%
Others 25%
FRANCE 11%
ITALY 14%
ALGERIA 35%
Total World Export: 3.53 30.1 mn MT


% Share of Principal Wine Exporters, 1993
Others 19%
U.S.A 3%
PORTUGAL 5%
SPAIN 22%
ITALY 27%
FRANCE 24%
Total World Export: 4.46 mn MT


% Share of Principal Wine Importers, 1970
Others 26%
U.K 4%
SWITZERLAN D 5%
GERMANY FED 16%
FRANCE 29%
USSR 20%
Total World Import: 3.60 mn MT


% Share of Principal Wine Importers, 1993
BELGIUM 7%
U.S.A 7%
USSR 8%
Others 42%
FRANCE 17%
U.K 19%
Total World Import: 3.44 mn MT

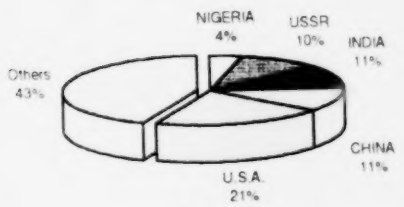


Wine

Global wine production has been shrinking at an average rate of -0.49 per cent per year from 1970. Comparison of growth averages during the first three years of each decade indicates that the contraction is confined primarily in more recent years, with a relatively strong production surge of 2.21 per cent per year during 1970-1973, a slowing down to -0.13 per cent between 1980-1983, and finally further shrinking at a rate of -2.93 per cent during 1990-1993 period. This pattern reflects production movements of European growers, but not those in the American continent. The United States, for instance, has been increasing wine production at an average annual rate of 1.23 per cent since 1970, and by 1993 its has joined the world's leading wine **producers**. It should be noted, however, that in 1994 Argentina has taken over the United States' fourth position, after Italy, France and Spain. Wine export is currently dominated by Italy, France, Spain and Portugal with market shares of 29 per cent, 25 per cent, 23 per cent and 5 per cent, respectively. However, it has not always been so. In 1970, about 35 per cent of wine traded internationally came from Algeria. On the other hand, the United States, for which share in global wine import was only 0.1 per cent in 1970, has become one of the world's leading wine **exporters** with a 3 per cent share in the market. Among wine **importers**, the United States ranks third alongside European countries, notably the United Kingdom, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Like wine production, steep reduction in recent years averaging -4.27 per cent per annum is noted in wine import.

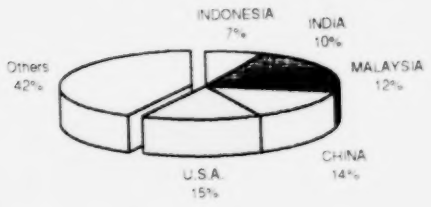
VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Producers, 1970



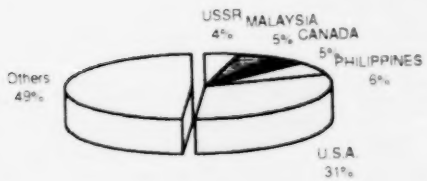
Total World Production: 31.82 mn MT

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Producers, 1993



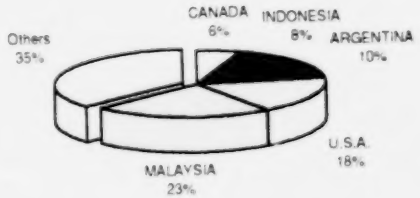
Total World Production: 71.73 mn MT

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Exporters, 1970



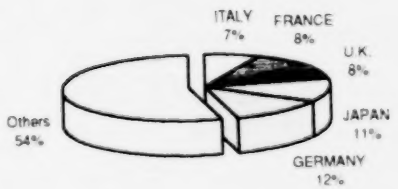
Total World Export: 10.01 mn MT

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Exporters, 1993



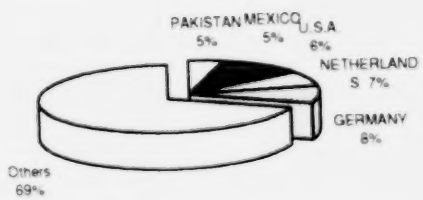
Total World Export: 29.34 mn MT

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Importers, 1970

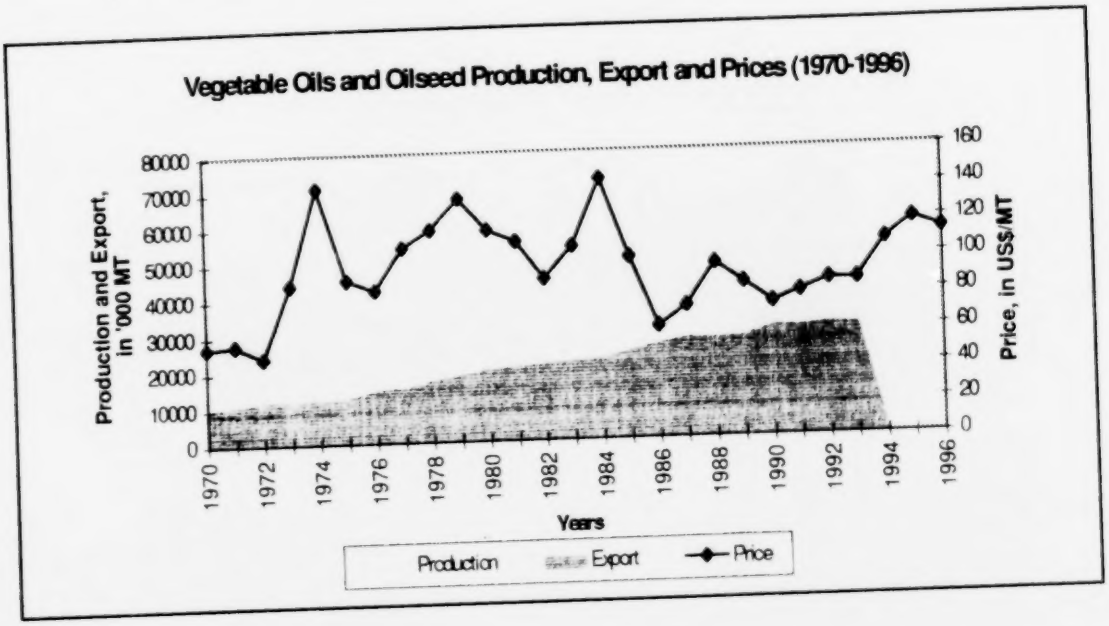


Total World Import: 9.79 mn MT

% Share of Principal Vegetable Oils and Oilseed Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 27.70 mn MT



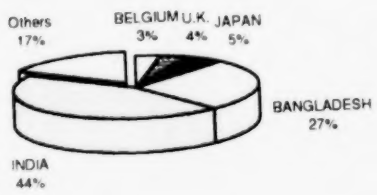
Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds

As at 1993, the United States and China produce 15 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively, of the world's supply of vegetable oilseeds, oleaginous fruits and oils. Increased production of soyabeans, cottonseed and sunflowerseed is expected to boost total world production by 3.7 per cent. With an annual production growing at around 1.75 per cent between 1990-1993, China may soon become the major producer. Malaysia is also likely to become the world's largest vegetable oilseeds and oils **producer**, with a 12 per cent share and 2.81 per cent annual growth rate. It has already surpassed the United States as the world's largest **exporter**, with a share almost a quarter of total world trade. It should be noted, however, that between 1990-1993 Malaysian export growth has considerably slowed down to 0.37 per cent per year compared to 9.77 per cent a decade earlier while that of the U.S. grew by 3.51 per cent , a recovery from the negative rate of -1.19 per cent per annum during 1980-1983. Indonesia and Canada have also recovered, with annual rates of 6.42 per cent and 4.98 per cent, respectively, during 1990-1993. Japan is the principal **importer** (9 per cent of total) followed by the Netherlands' 7 per cent. The five majorimporters account for only 30 per cent of total imports, with the remaining 70 per cent being distributed over the rest of the world.

Over half of total oilseed production is made up of soyabeans, which supply is estimated to be 6 per cent more in 1996/97 than in 1995/96. Its impact on carryover levels, however, is expected to be marginal. In addition, the critical stocks-to-use ratio will remain at an extremely tight 13 per cent. With stocks of soyabeans at such tight levels, **prices** for soyabeans and the overall oilseed sector in general should remain strong.

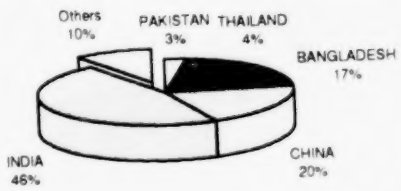
JUTE PRODUCTS

% Share of Principal Jute Product Producers, 1970



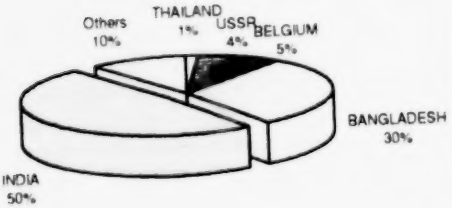
Total World Production: 2.27 mn MT

% Share of Principal Jute Product Producers, 1993



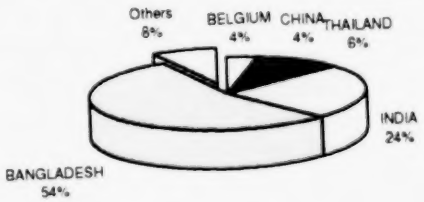
Total World Production: 3.31 mn MT

% Share of Principal Jute Product Exporters, 1970



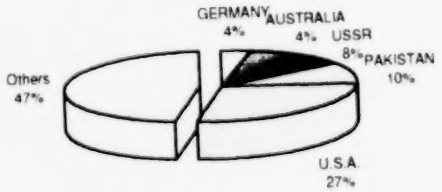
Total World Export: 1.29 mn MT

% Share of Principal Jute Product Exporters, 1993



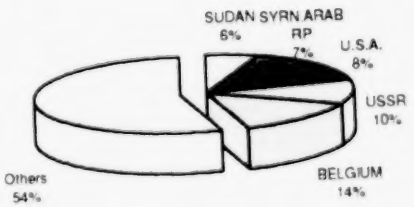
Total World Export: 843,000 MT

% Share of Principal Jute Product Importers, 1970

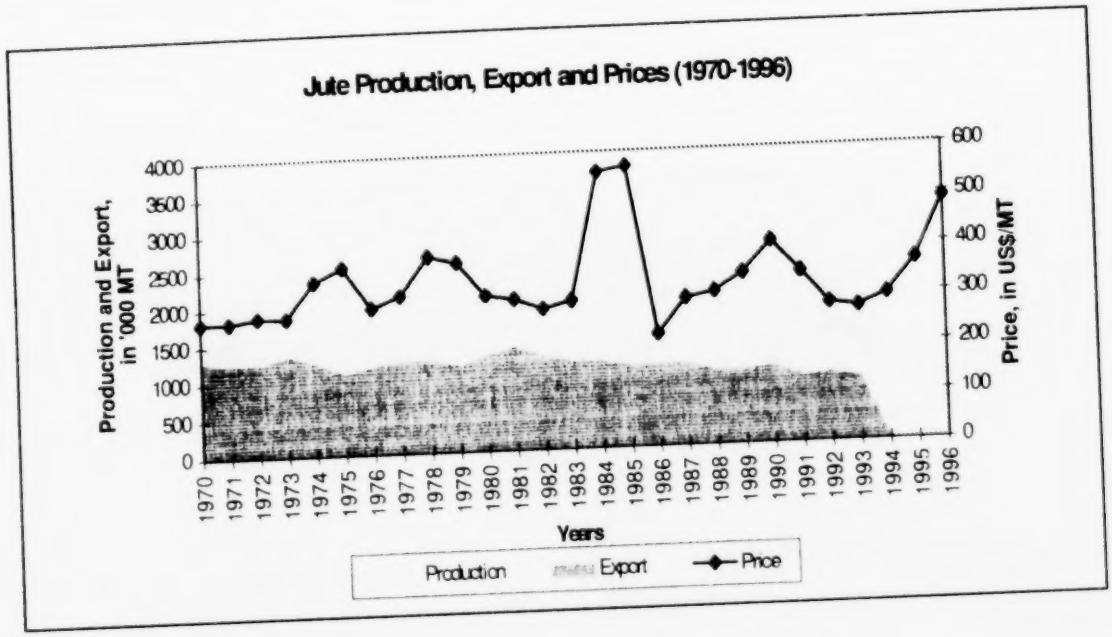


Total World Import: 1.41 mn MT

% Share of Principal Jute Product Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 865,000 MT



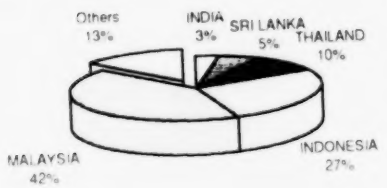
Jute

World jute production has been falling. This decline has been somewhat cushioned by increased production by one or the other major jute producer in the past, such as India and Thailand in the 1970s and Bangladesh and Pakistan in the 1980s, all major producers have slowed down production by the 1990s. World consumption levels likewise reflect trends in the major jute **consuming** countries: China and Thailand in the 1970s, India and Belgium in the 1980s. Among the top five jute consumers, positive growth is discernible only in Belgium for the first three years of the 1990s. Like cotton, this could be a sign of increased consumer preferences of natural and recyclable products. Growing environmental consciousness, however, has thus far not been strong enough to offset declining jute exports, for which global rates of contraction in volume are estimated at -1.36 per cent per annum between 1980-1983 and at -2.80 per cent per year between 1990-1993. In 1993/94, world exports of jute goods decreased by 13 per cent from the previous year. Bangladesh, the world's largest jute **exporter**, depends on jute and jute products for approximately 10 per cent of its foreign exchange earnings. Its share in the jute product export market has grown from 30 per cent in 1970 to 54 per cent in 1993, reversing India's dominance. Other important jute product exporters in the region are Thailand and China.

There are certain signs in the market which could be indicative of impending **price** increase. One such development is tightening world jute supply brought about by low stocks carried over from last season and reduced Bangladesh production due to inclement weather. Production in India and Thailand is also expected to be lower than expected. Other factors are new or renewed uses and applications of jute materials and strengthening demand for jute goods in certain countries. On the other hand, jute still faces stiff competition from its more versatile and better-priced polypropylene polymer. If price levels for jute and jute products do rise, or even just stabilize at current levels, the incentive for planting jute in 199671997 should increase significantly.

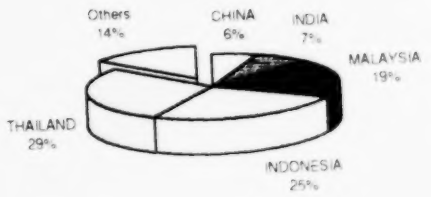
NATURAL RUBBER

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Producers, 1970



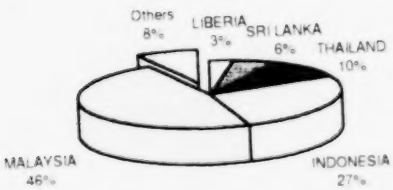
Total World Production: 3.00 mn MT

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Producers, 1993



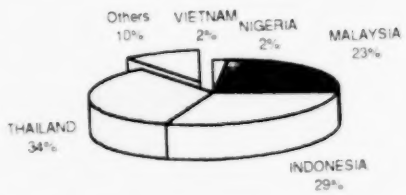
Total World Production: 5.54 mn MT

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Exporters, 1970



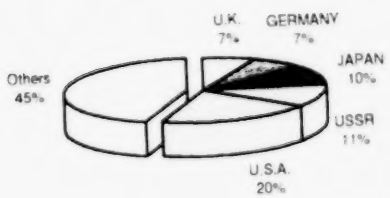
Total World Export: 2.85 mn MT

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Exporters, 1993



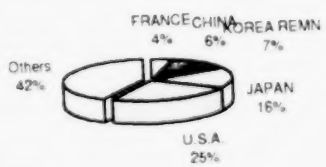
Total World Export: 4.14 mn MT

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Importers, 1970

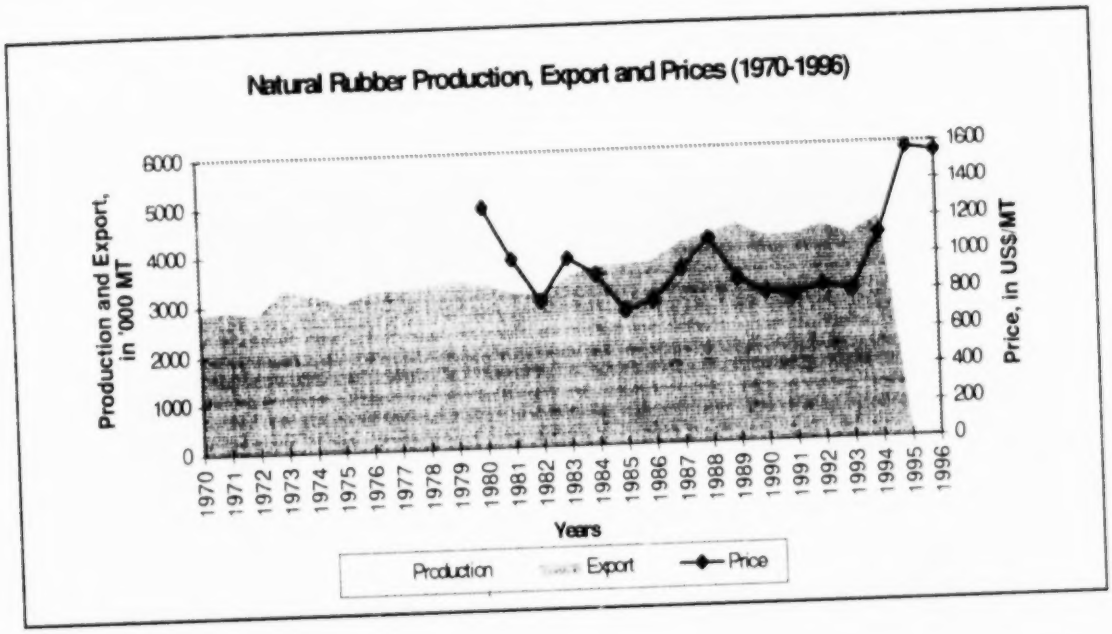


Total World Import: 2.85 mn MT

% Share of Principal Natural Rubber Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 4.00 mn MT



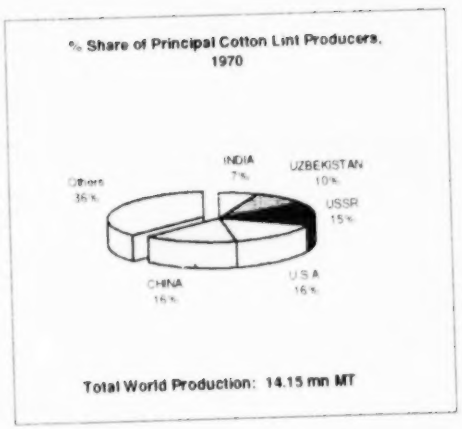
Natural Rubber

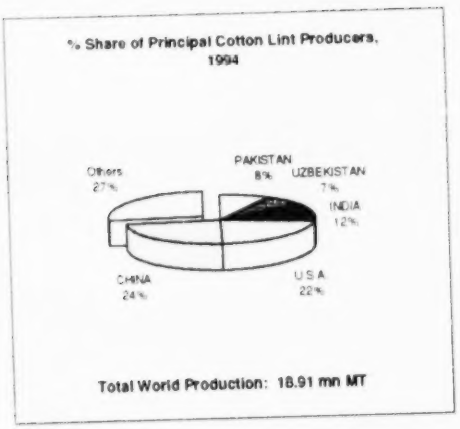
About 85 per cent of the world's rubber supply is grown in south and south-east Asia region. The top three **producers**, namely Thailand , Indonesia and Malaysia, have been the major producers. In the 1970s, Malaysia was the world's top producer, but over the past 23 years its natural rubber output has been declining at a annual average of 0.31 per cent such that its 1993 production volume was about 23 per cent less than that of 1970. Production in Thailand, on the other hand, is estimated to be growing at a brisk 3.26 per cent per annum during the same period with the 1990-1993 figures growing at an annual average of 5.32 per cent. Indonesia has maintained its rank of second place. Other important rubber producers, specifically India and China, are relative new-comers in rubber production. Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia also head the world's most important natural rubber **exporters**. They are joined by Nigeria and Viet Nam, which replaced the slots occupied by Sri Lanka and Liberia in 1970. Among the **importers**, the United States maintains the lead it has taken since 1970. It currently takes up about a quarter of the natural rubber in the market. Japan, Republic of Korea and China in Asia as a group take up another 30 per cent.

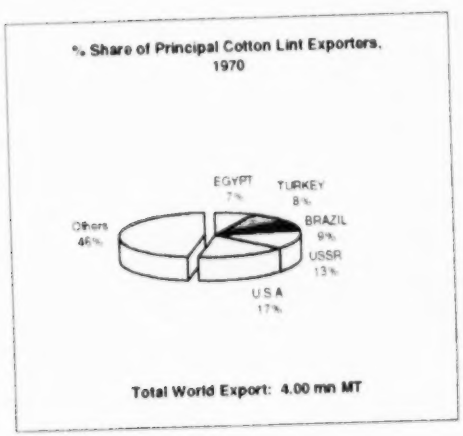
World rubber consumption grew in tandem with that of production until the mid-1980s when it started lagging behind. By the period 1990-1993, it has contracted to -0.10 per cent per annum while production continued to grow at an annual rate of 1.48 per cent. There is reason to hope, however, that this slide might be arrested or even reversed. Two of the world's foremost rubber **consumers**, the United States and India, have increased use of rubber faster during 1990-1993 than in 1980-1983. These two countries together take up approximately 80 per cent of total world rubber.

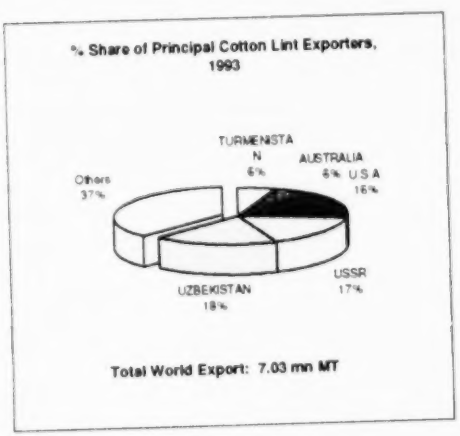
Rubber **prices** in the 1970s, attracted new producers and subsequently became depressed and unstable in the 1980s leading to a decline in natural rubber production.

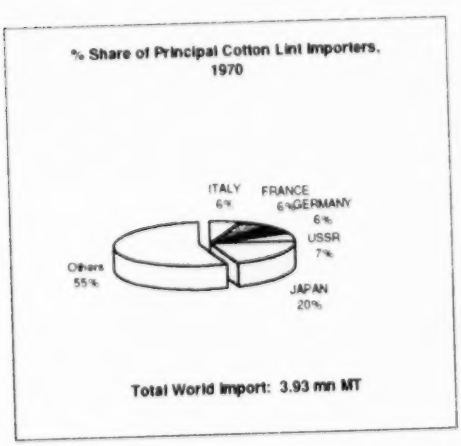
COTTON LINT

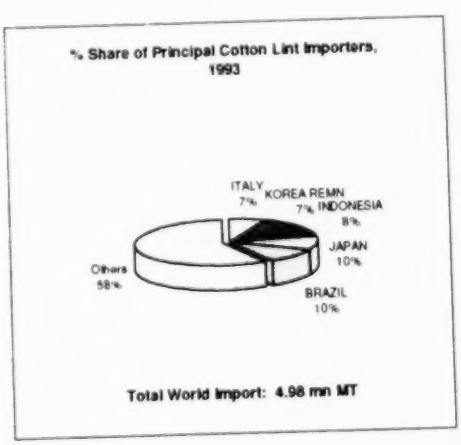

% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Producers, 1970
INDIA 7%
UZBEKISTAN 10%
USSR 15%
U.S.A 16%
CHINA 16%
Others 36%
Total World Production: 14.15 mn MT

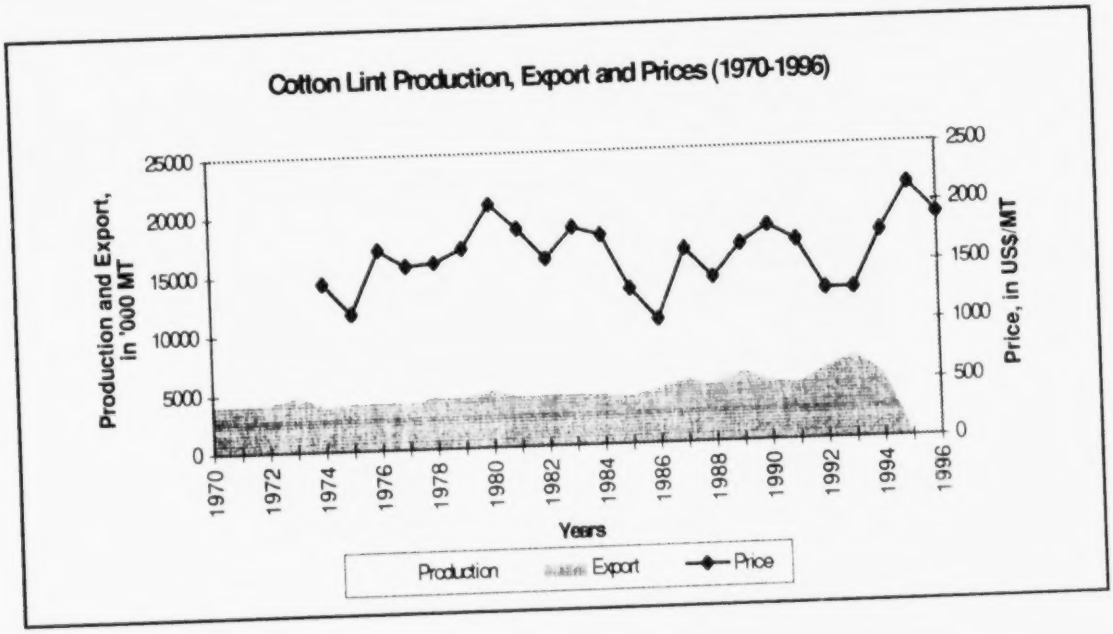

% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Producers, 1994
PAKISTAN 8%
UZBEKISTAN 7%
INDIA 12%
U.S.A 22%
CHINA 24%
Others 27%
Total World Production: 18.91 mn MT


% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Exporters, 1970
EGYPT 7%
TURKEY 8%
BRAZIL 9%
USSR 13%
U.S.A 17%
Others 46%
Total World Export: 4.00 mn MT


% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Exporters, 1993
TURMENISTAN 6%
AUSTRALIA 6%
U.S.A 16%
USSR 17%
UZBEKISTAN 18%
Others 37%
Total World Export: 7.03 mn MT


% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Importers, 1970
ITALY 6%
FRANCE 6%
GERMANY 6%
USSR 7%
JAPAN 20%
Others 55%
Total World Import: 3.93 mn MT


% Share of Principal Cotton Lint Importers, 1993
ITALY 7%
KOREA REMN 7%
INDONESIA 8%
JAPAN 10%
BRAZIL 10%
Others 58%
Total World Import: 4.98 mn MT



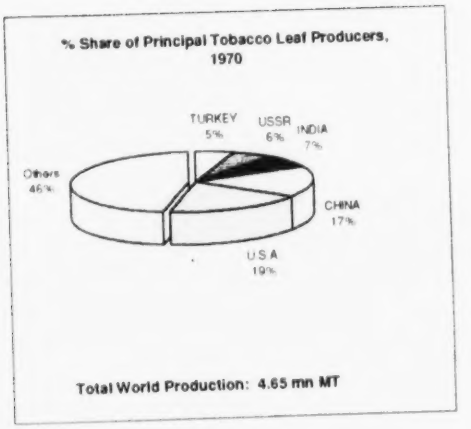
Cotton

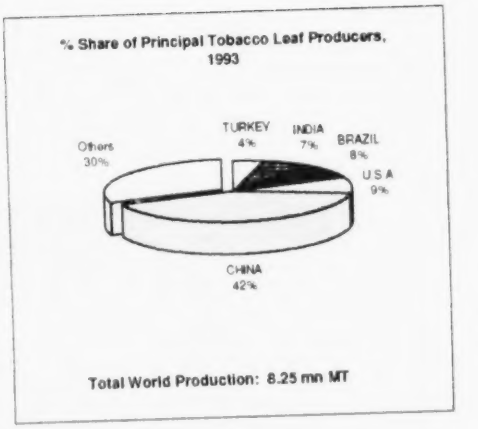
Estimates for the 1995/1996 crop for the world's top two cotton **producers**, China and the United States, have had to be scaled back due to poor yield inspite of new plantings undertaken in response to price increases in the late 1980s. Significant increases, however, expected from South Asia including India and Pakistan, as well as from Uzbekistan, could offset this deficit. In 1970, the United States, the former Soviet Union, Brazil, Turkey, and Egypt dominated the cotton lint export market. Currently Uzbekistan is the world's most important cotton lint exporter, followed closely by the Russian Federation. Other important cotton lint **exporters** are the United States, Australia and Turkmenistan. Both Brazil and Japan head the world's biggest cotton lint **importers** with a market share of approximately 10 per cent each. With Brazil's cotton import bill expected to amount to $700-800 million, Brazilian growers are pressing the government for measures to stimulate domestic plantings on the grounds that US farmers are subsidized. Other leading cotton **importers** are Indonesia, Republic of Korea and Italy.

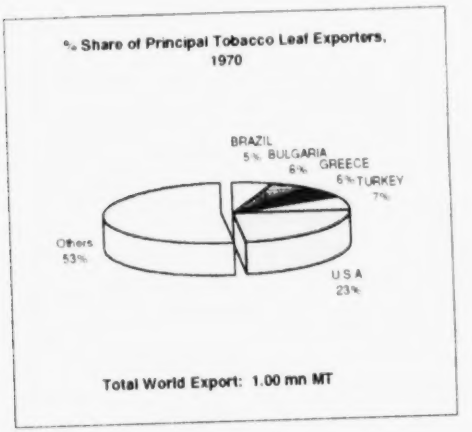
The world's top cotton producers are also its top **consumers**. Consumption trends among these countries vary widely; between 1980-1982 China's cotton consumption was growing at an average of 2.65 per cent per annum only to slaken to 1.17 per cent ten years later from 1990-1992. During the same periods, that of the United States not only recovered from a decline of -4.22 per cent per year to a brisk rise of 3.22 per cent manifesting a growing consciousness and preference for natural products. This, however, is still not true for other important consumers. In the former Soviet Union, contraction in cotton consumption during 1980-1982 is estimated at -1.76 per cent per year, a decline that is to accelerate to -7.74 per cent ten years later.

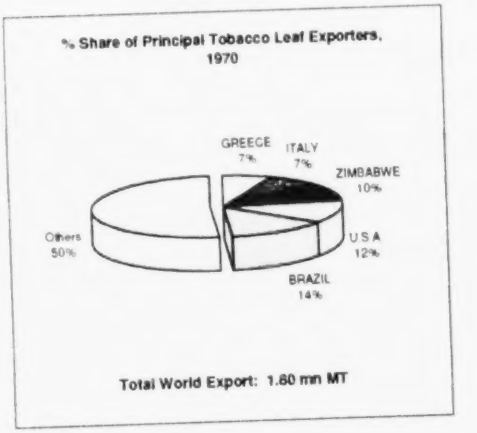
Cotton **prices** remain as volatile as weather and crop reports, but there are signs of encouragement from slackening stocks. Textile mills in east and south Asia are reported to be running low on the excess supply of yarns that had depressed prices for some time and yarn prices have begun to recover in most of the region. Another source of encouragement are tentative indicators of more active demand for yarn in Western Europe. On the other hand, an important buyer in the Asian region is expected to curtail its import volume, in which case displaced supply could put a downward pressure on the price.

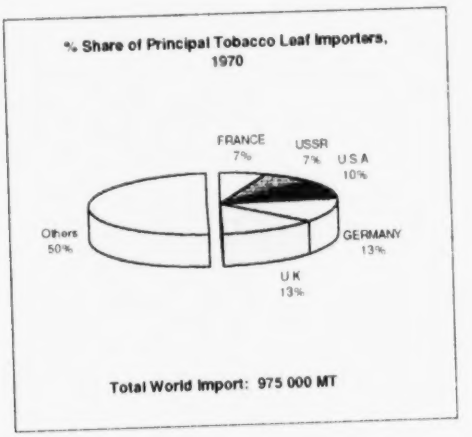
TOBACCO LEAVES

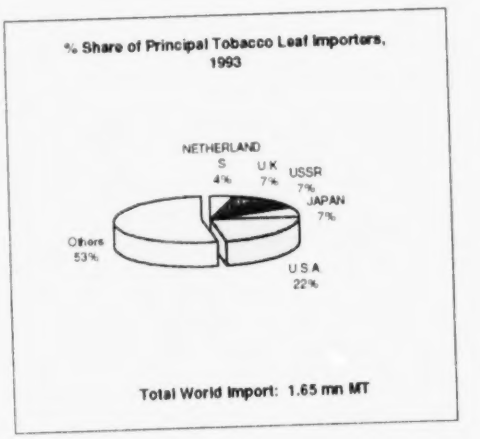


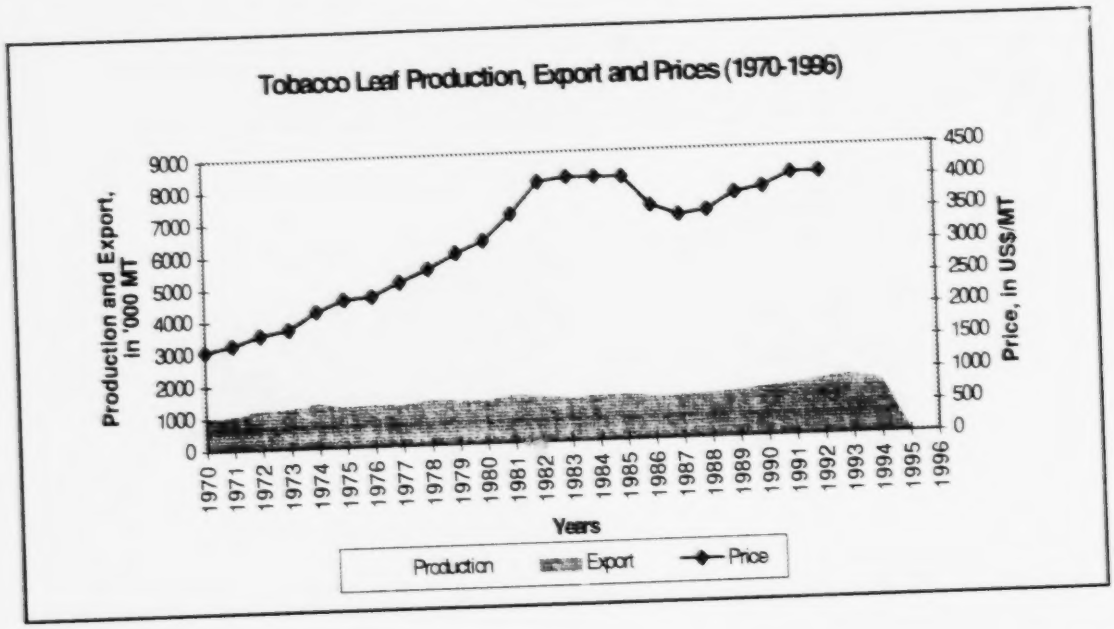








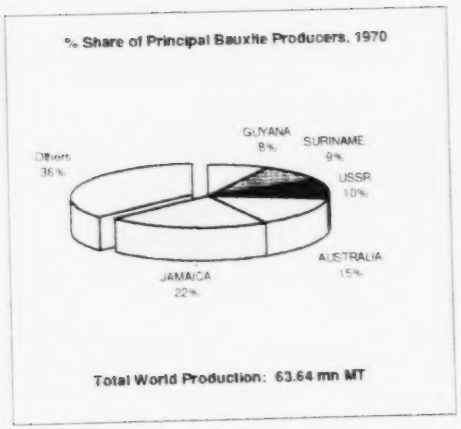


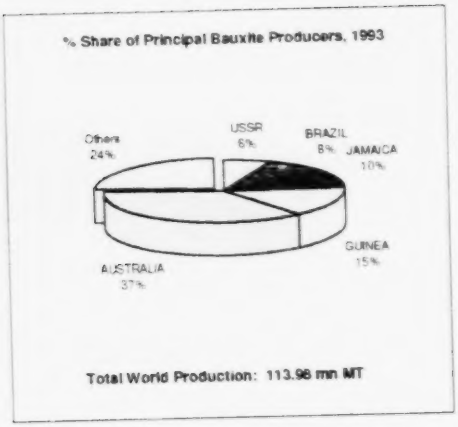


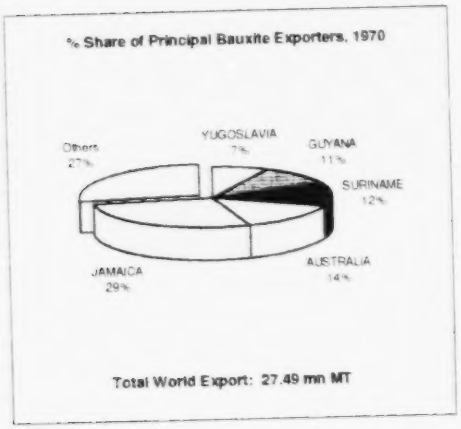
Tobacco

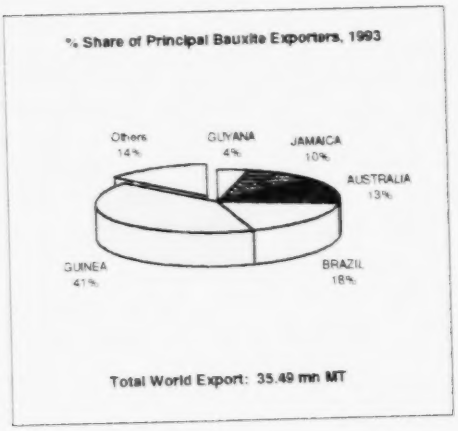
Tobacco leaf production on the global level has been growing at an annual average of 1.03 per cent since 1970; comparison among the average annual rate during the first three years of each decade shows that growth was slowest during the early 1970s. It picked up to almost 2 per cent per annum in the 1980s and well into the early 1990s. Among the world's top tobacco leaf **producers**, China stands out both in terms of growth and volume, such that by 1994, it was growing about 45 per cent of the world's tobacco leaf. Absorbing about 42 per cent of the world's supply of unmanufactured tobacco, China is also the world's foremost tobacco **consumer**. Compared to the world annual unmanufactured tobacco growth average of 1.20 per cent, its rate of over 4 per cent per year is likely to guarantee it this position in the foreseeable future. Brazil, which ranked third behind China and the United States in tobacco leaf production and which do not figure among the world's principal consumers, leads the United States as tobacco leaf **exporter** by 2 per cent with 14 per cent of trade. This gap is expected to widen, with Brazil's export volume growing at an annual average of 3.80 per cent during the 1990-1993 while that of the US contracted at -1.18 per cent. Zimbabwe, for which share in global export volume in 1993 is about 11 per cent and for which volume is growing at an 6.99 per cent per year, could soon surpass the United States as tobacco leaf exporter. The United States' position as the world's largest tobacco leaf **importer**, however, appears unchallenged for the time being. Even though its import volume contracted in the early 1980s it was again growing at an annual rate of 8.96 per cent in the 1990s to absorb 25 per cent of total world tobacco leaf imports by 1993. Japan lags a distant second, with only 8 per cent of the global import, at a comparative growth rate of 5.85 per cent.

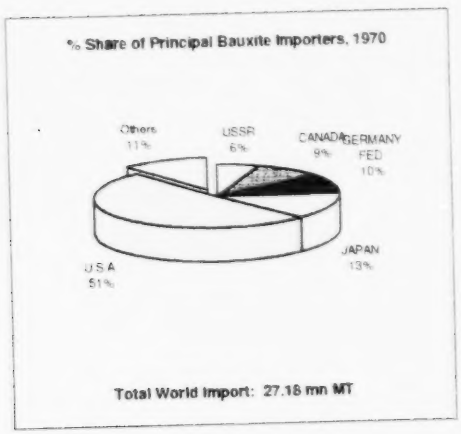
BAUXITE

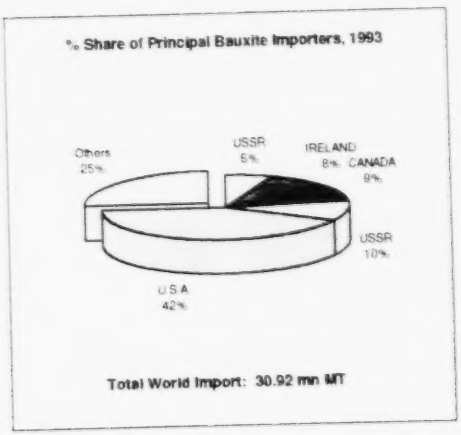

% Share of Principal Bauxite Producers, 1970
Others 36%
GUYANA 8%
SURINAME 9%
USSR 10%
AUSTRALIA 15%
JAMAICA 22%
Total World Production: 63.64 mn MT

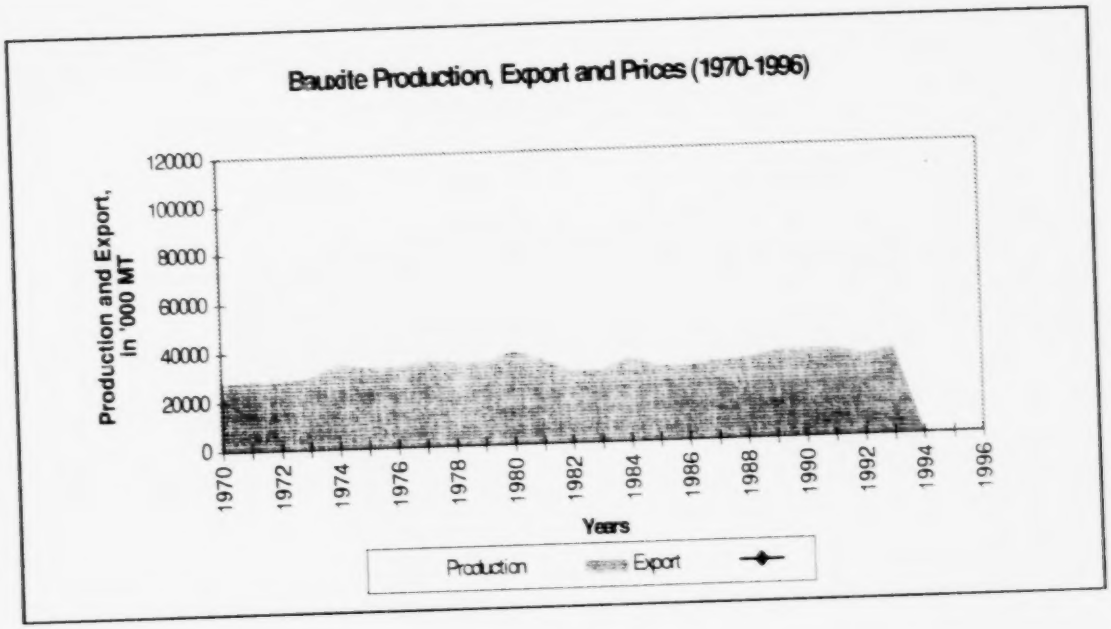

% Share of Principal Bauxite Producers, 1993
Others 24%
USSR 6%
BRAZIL 8%
JAMAICA 10%
GUINEA 15%
AUSTRALIA 37%
Total World Production: 113.98 mn MT


% Share of Principal Bauxite Exporters, 1970
Others 27%
YUGOSLAVIA 7%
GUYANA 11%
SURINAME 12%
AUSTRALIA 14%
JAMAICA 29%
Total World Export: 27.49 mn MT


% Share of Principal Bauxite Exporters, 1993
Others 14%
GUYANA 4%
JAMAICA 10%
AUSTRALIA 13%
BRAZIL 18%
GUINEA 41%
Total World Export: 35.49 mn MT


% Share of Principal Bauxite Importers, 1970
Others 11%
USSR 6%
CANADA 9%
GERMANY FED 10%
JAPAN 13%
U.S.A 51%
Total World Import: 27.18 mn MT


% Share of Principal Bauxite Importers, 1993
Others 25%
USSR 5%
IRELAND 8%
CANADA 9%
USSR 10%
U.S.A 42%
Total World Import: 30.92 mn MT

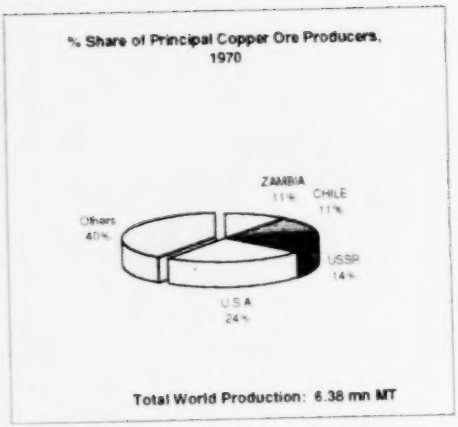


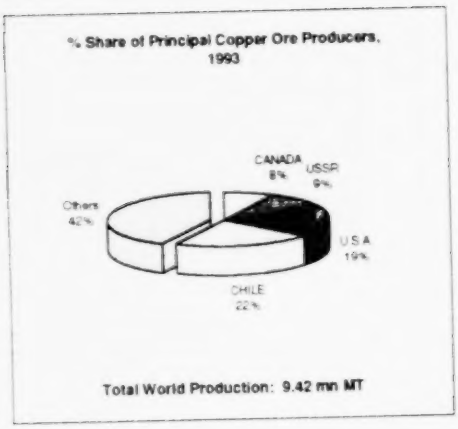
Bauxite

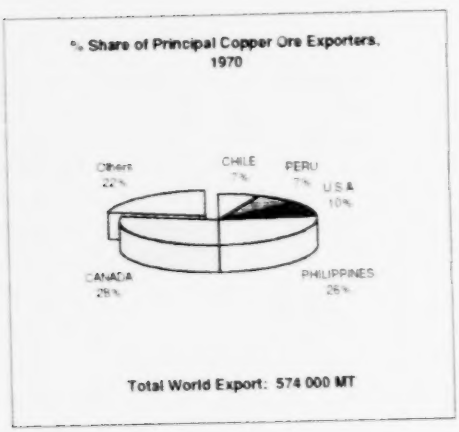
About 37 per cent of the world's bauxite supply is from Australia. Other important world **producers** include Guinea and Jamaica, for which contributions to world production are estimated at 15 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively. Production trends in these three countries set the movement at the global level, for which average annual growth between 1970 and 1993 is put at 1.11 per cent. A comparison among the first three years of each decade shows 1970-1993 to be a period of rapid growth, 1980-1983 of relatively deep contraction, and 1990-1993 of cautious recovery.

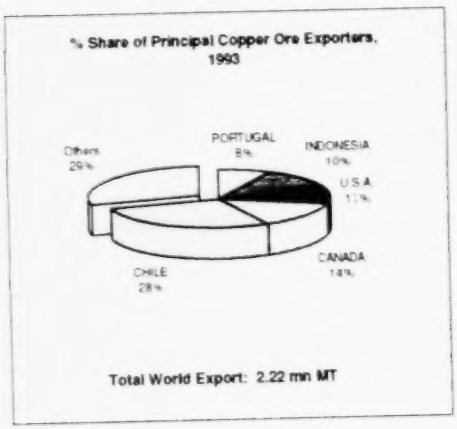
But while Australia exports only a tenth of its production, about 85 per cent of Guinea's bauxite is earmarked for foreign trade making it the world's largest bauxite **exporter**. As a group, the five leading bauxite exporters, namely Guinea, Brazil, Australia, Jamaica and Guyana represent about 86 per cent of the world's bauxite market. Forty-two percent of bauxite traded in the international market is destined for the United States. Other important bauxite **importers** are the former Soviet Union, Canada, Ireland and Japan. Among these, Ireland's imports are growing at a rate of 4.71 per cent per year between 1990 and 1993.

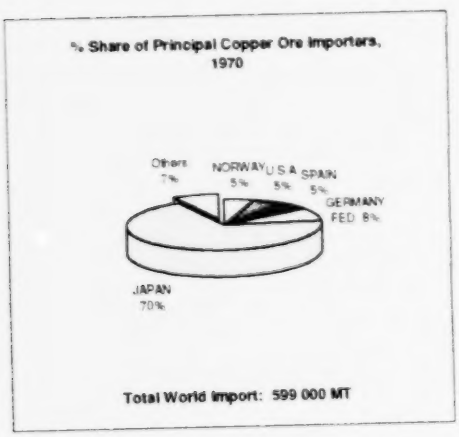
COPPER ORE

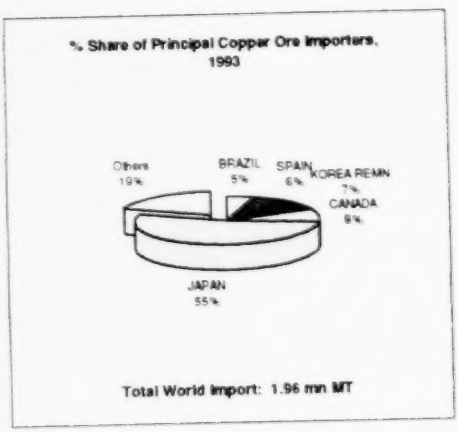

% Share of Principal Copper Ore Producers, 1970
ZAMBIA 11%
CHILE 11%
Others 40%
USSR 14%
U.S.A 24%
Total World Production: 6.38 mn MT

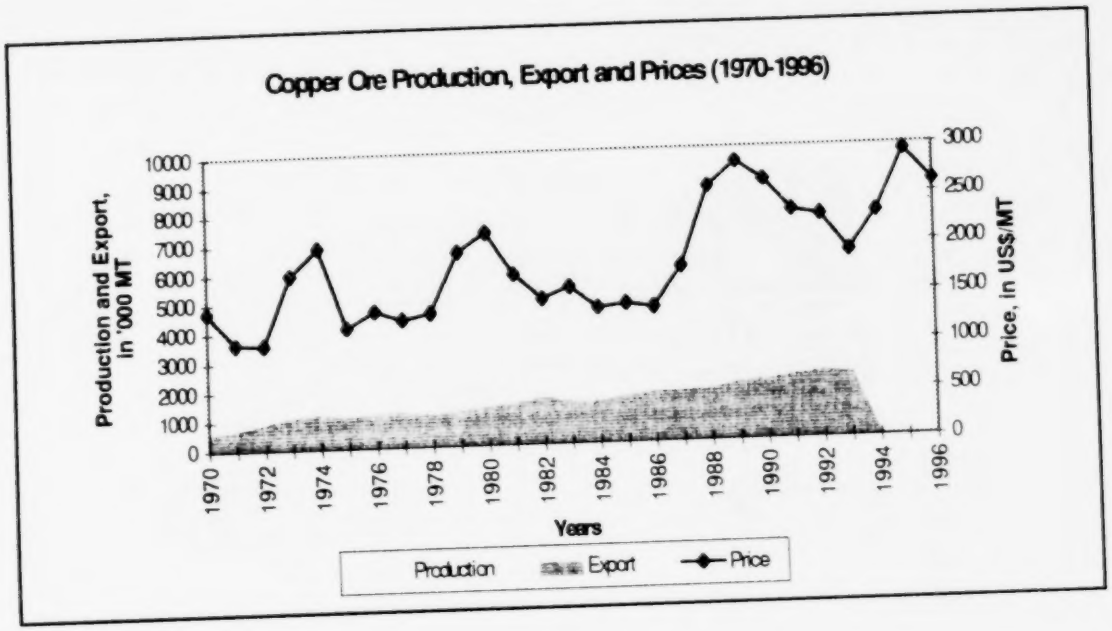

% Share of Principal Copper Ore Producers, 1993
CANADA 8%
USSR 9%
Others 42%
U.S.A 19%
CHILE 22%
Total World Production: 9.42 mn MT


% Share of Principal Copper Ore Exporters, 1970
Others 22%
CHILE 7%
PERU 7%
U.S.A 10%
CANADA 26%
PHILIPPINES 26%
Total World Export: 574 000 MT


% Share of Principal Copper Ore Exporters, 1993
Others 29%
PORTUGAL 8%
INDONESIA 10%
U.S.A 11%
CANADA 14%
CHILE 28%
Total World Export: 2.22 mn MT


% Share of Principal Copper Ore Importers, 1970
Others 7%
NORWAY 5%
U.S.A 5%
SPAIN 5%
GERMANY FED 8%
JAPAN 70%
Total World Import: 599 000 MT


% Share of Principal Copper Ore Importers, 1993
Others 19%
BRAZIL 5%
SPAIN 6%
KOREA REMN 7%
CANADA 9%
JAPAN 55%
Total World Import: 1.96 mn MT



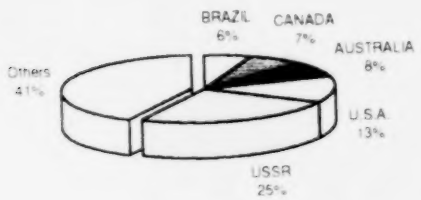
Copper Ore

Chile, the source of 22 per cent of the world's copper ore supply, looks poise to strengthen its position as the world's largest copper ore **producer**. Between 1990 and 1993, its copper ore production increased at a rate of 3.80 per cent a year, double that of the second largest copper producer, the United States for which growth for the same period is estimated at 1.69 per cent. The other leading copper producers, namely the former Soviet Union, Canada and Zambia, registered production declines during the same period. Chile exports about one third of its production, yet its share of 28 per cent in total copper export makes it the world's leading **exporter**. Given its relatively large market share and robust annual growth of 13.69 per cent during 1990-1993, Chile's dominance in this market looks solid. Another fast-growing player is Indonesia, for which export growth rate in 1990-1993 is estimated at 5.91 per cent per annum. In 1993, more than half of the copper traded in the international market is absorbed by Japan. Its role as the world's leading copper ore **importer**, however, looks diminished relative to its dominance in the 1970s when it purchased about 70 per cent of copper ore in the market. Nonetheless, the shares of other principal copper ore importers, namely Canada, Republic of Republic of Korea, Spain and Brazil still look meager compared to that of Japan.

Current market sentiments swing between fear of a short-term squeeze on the exchange floor on the one hand and confidence on longer term supplies on the other, sentiments which stem from historically low inventories at exchanges and steadily rising producers' and consumers' stocks. The industry is also preparing for a number of modern, large-scale mines, with Chilean production expected to grow 72 per cent from 1995 to 3.8 million tons by 2000. Privatization and economic stability in Peru are likewise cited as revitalizing factors for the industry. Thus, with little growth in demand and rising stocks from increased production, recovery of copper prices from its spectacular fall in 1993 is not expected to hold through to 1996. On the other hand, current market conditions including increased Polish consumption, reduced Russian exports and increased Chinese imports could build up copper demand.

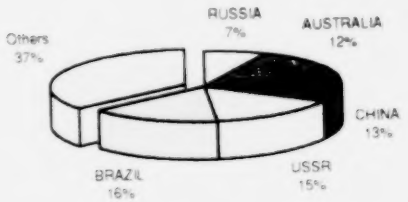
IRON ORE

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Producers, 1970



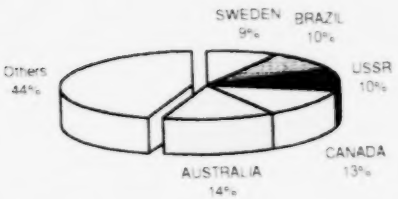
Total World Production: 424.65 mn MT

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Producers, 1993



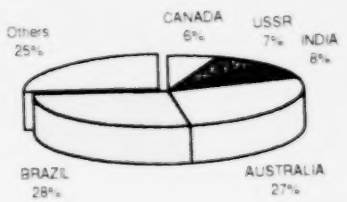
Total World Production: 610.35 mn MT

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Exporters, 1970



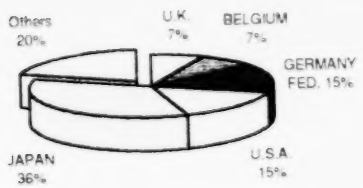
Total World Export: 190.92 mn MT

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Exporters, 1993



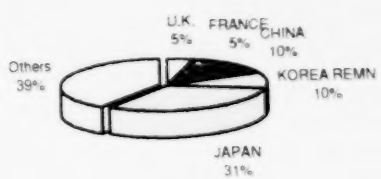
Total World Export: 265.88 mn MT

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Importers, 1970

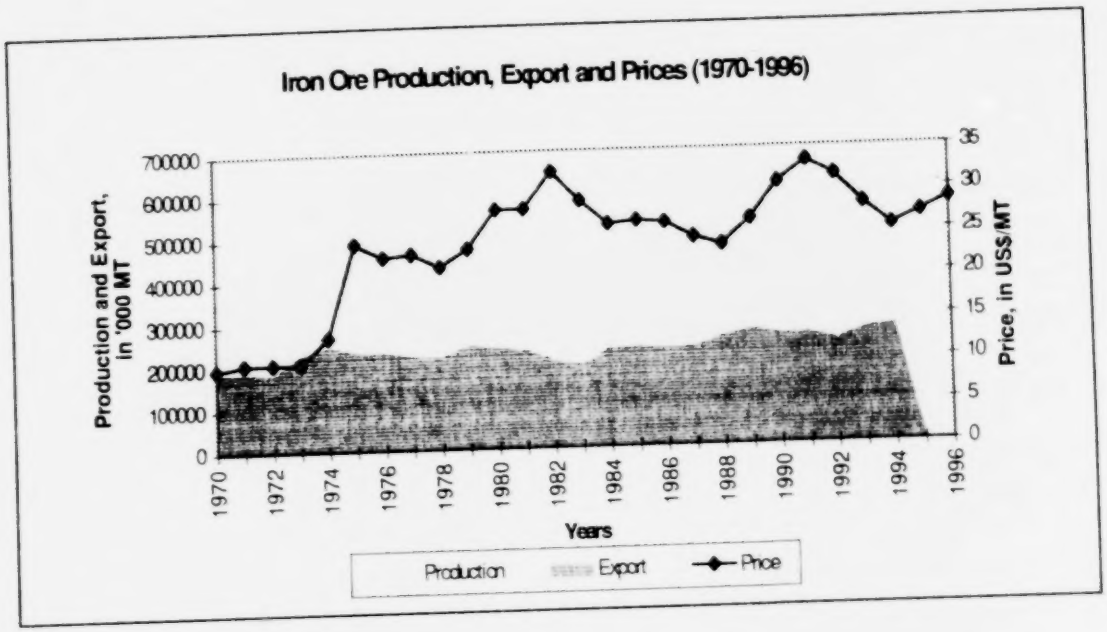


Total World Import: 181.50 mn MT

% Share of Principal Iron Ore Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 218.69 mn MT



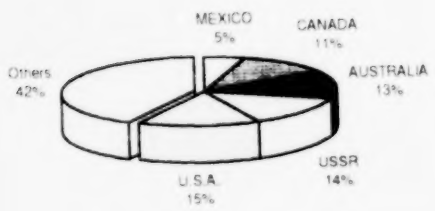
Iron Ore

About two-thirds of the world's iron ore supply come from the top five **producers**, led by Brazil which furnish about 16 per cent, the former Soviet Union 15 per cent, China at 13 per cent and Australia at 12 per cent, while the Ukraine -- a relatively late comer -- has a 7 per cent share. Among these producers, China has the fastest production growth in recent years with an annual rate of 4.81 per cent average during 1990-1993, followed by Australia with 1.04 per cent average. The other leading players reported declining production during the period. Brazil very slightly edges Australia to become the world's primary iron ore **exporter**, but the situation could be reversed in the near future given Australia's robust growth of 2.57 per cent per year during 1990-1993 compared to Brazil's 0.30 per cent. As at 1994, each country contribute about 30 per cent of total iron ore exports. Together with India, the former Soviet Union and Canada for which shares in global export are approximately 7 per cent each, the five principal exporters account for 80 per cent of total iron ore export into the world market. Approximately a third of this is purchased by Japan, decidedly the world's leading iron ore **importer**. During the period 1990-1993, however, Japan's imports have declined while Republic of Republic of Korea and China, each of whom take up a tenth of the global iron ore imports, has been increasing their purchases at the rates of 7 per cent and 13 per cent, respectively, each year.

Iron ore trade expanded for the third consecutive year in 1995 with the Asian region, notably Japan, Republic of Republic of Korea and China, increasing their iron ore imports. There are signs, however, that it is declining as the steel industry continues to slow down in the region as elsewhere in the world. The decline in interest rates in the United States is expected to boost home sales, new housing starts and the home appliance sector, which in turn should trigger an increase in demand for wire rod, rebar and flat production. In Western Europe, except in Italy where investment and construction are in full activity, the combination of weak domestic demand, excess inventories and cheaper imports is putting downward pressure on all product prices.

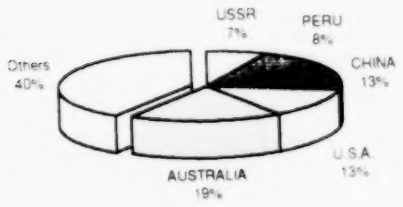
LEAD ORE

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Producers, 1970



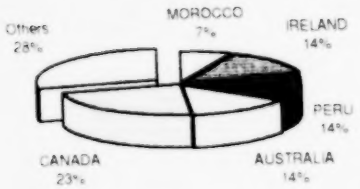
Total World Production: 3.45 mn MT

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Producers, 1993



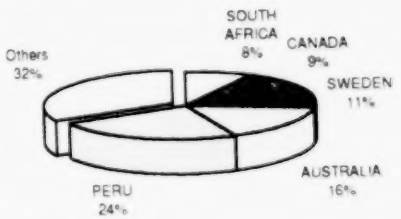
Total World Production: 2.78 mn MT

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Exporters, 1970



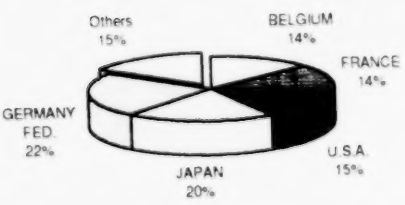
Total World Export: 655 000 MT

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Exporters, 1993



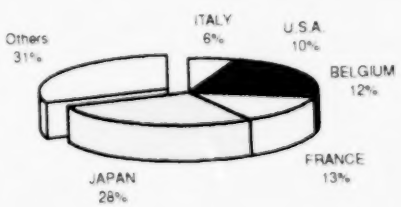
Total World Export: 718 000 MT

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Importers, 1970

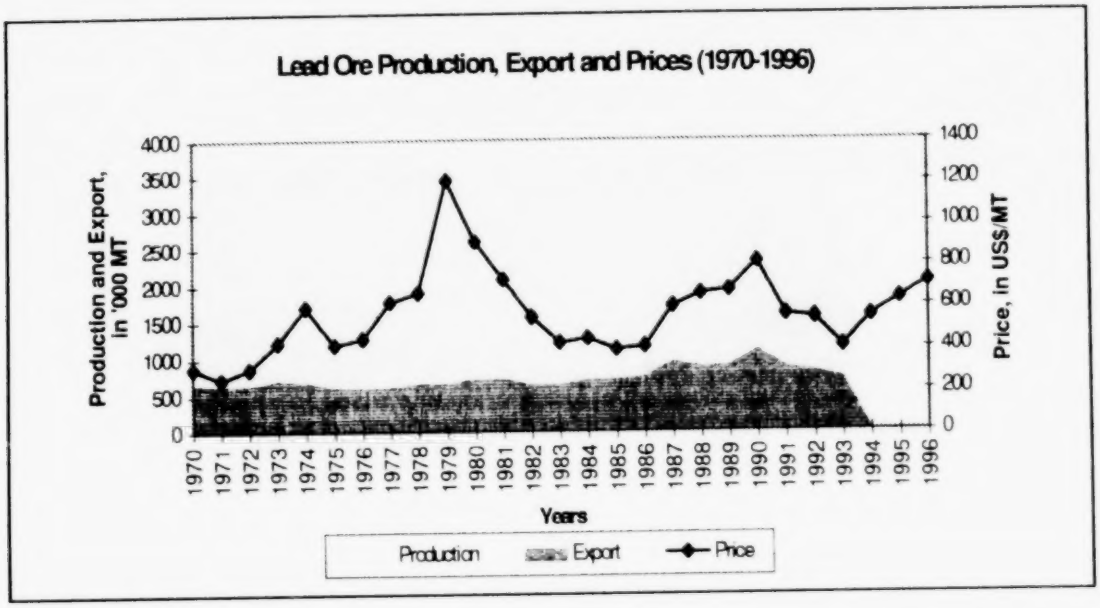


Total World Import: 698 000 MT

% Share of Principal Lead Ore Importers, 1993



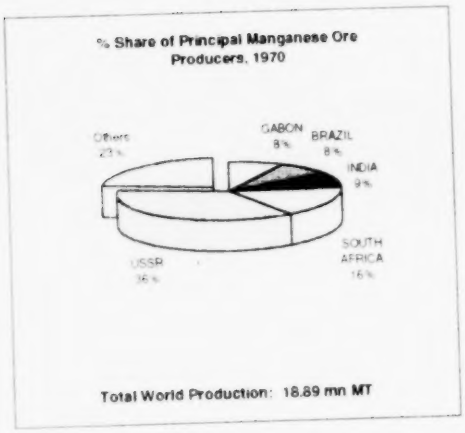
Total World Import: 727 000 MT

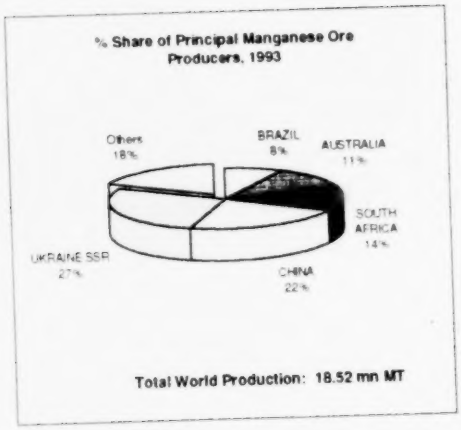


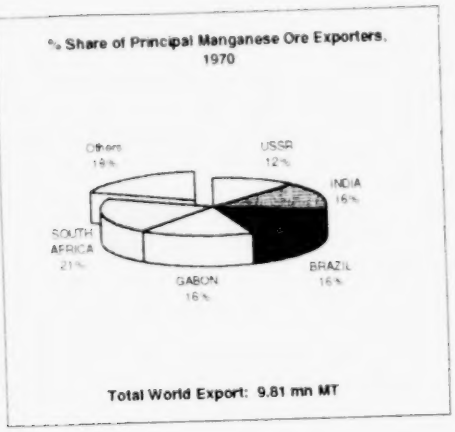
Lead Ore

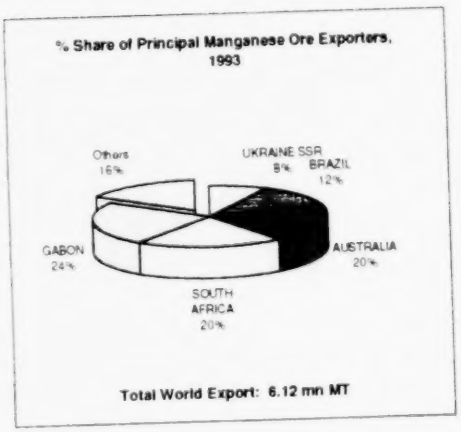
Following a period of stagnation in the 1970s, global lead production has been on a gradual but steady decline since. A comparison among principal lead **producers**, however, reveal differentiating trends with Australia, which currently supplies 19 per cent of the world's lead ore, showing a decline in the 1970s, a boom in the 1980s and then a slow fall in the 1990s. The United States and China, each of which produce about 13 per cent to the world's lead ore supply, show reverse trends with the former contracting and the latter expanding production. It is the fourth ranking lead ore producer, however, which is foremost lead ore **exporter** with a quarter share in the market. Peru's dominance in the current market is rather new; Canada has always had a primary role in this market. As recently as in 1990, Canada was the source of 38 per cent of the world's total lead ore exports. Another relative newcomer to the export market is South Africa, for which share has put it among leading lead ore exporters. In consonance with the movements manifested for production and export, global lead import has also been declining with the slide more precipitous in more recent years. Although Japan and Italy, the world's first and fifth ranking lead ore **importers**, have expanded import at annual rates of 1.70 per cent and 0.43 per cent respectively during 1990-1993, their growth have not been strong enough to offset reduction s made by other important importers such as France, Belgium and the United States, the latter as much as -7.94 per cent per year.

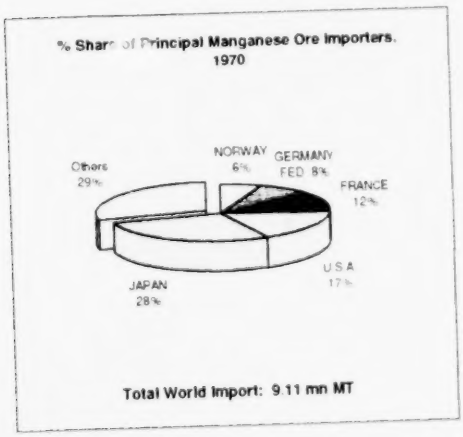
MANGANESE ORE

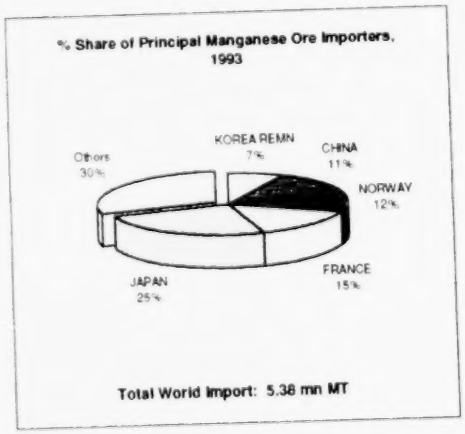


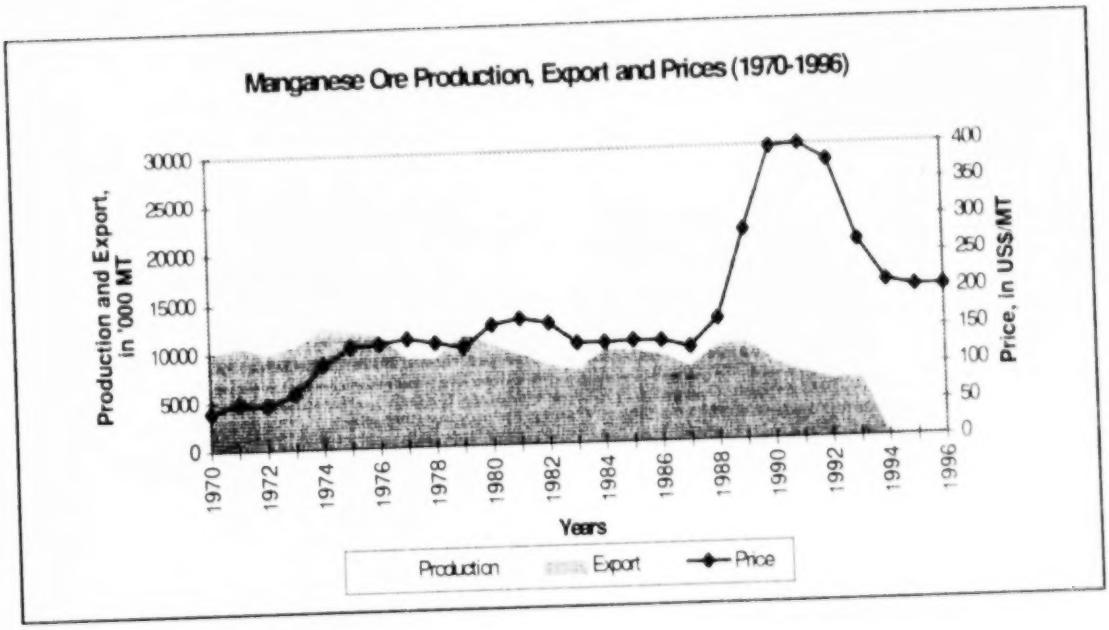










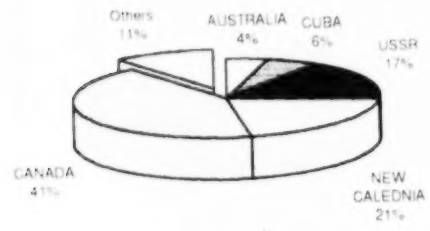


Manganese Ore

Since its entry intro the world market in 1992, the Ukraine has dominated manganese ore production with an output equivalent to about 27 per cent of total world production. It has outranked China, for which production has been growing at an average annual rate of 2.48 per cent from 1970. The second leading manganese ore **producer** in the 1970s, South Africa, has been reducing its output since the 1980s and currently ranks only third. It is, however, the world's second largest manganese ore **exporter** even though it exports only half of its output. The biggest exporter is Gabon which, while ranking only seventh in the world in terms of production, exports its output in its entirety. The Ukraine, on the other hand, exports only a tenth of its production volume and consequently ranks only fifth among exporters. Other important exporters are Australia and Brazil. India, a major world producer and exporter of manganese ore in the 1970s, is no longer active in this commodity. Since 1970, about a quarter of the manganese ore in the international market is absorbed by Japan. In volume terms, however, Japan's manganese ore import has been declining at a rate of -1.22 per cent per annum between 1970 and 1993. This is reflected in the global figures, for which 23-year decline averaged -0.97 per cent a year. Other important **importers**, namely France, Norway, China and Republic of Republic of Korea, also reported declines which are especially marked during the early 1980s.

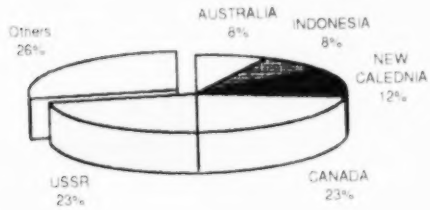
NICKEL ORE

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Producers, 1970



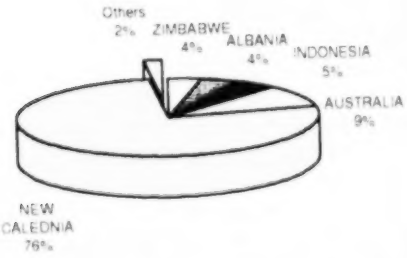
Total World Production: 663 000 MT

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Producers, 1993



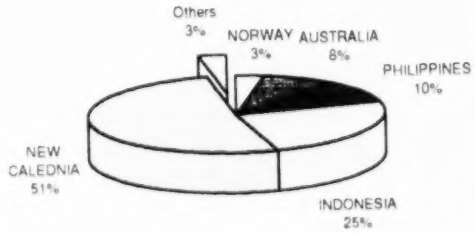
Total World Production: 835 000 MT

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Exporters, 1970



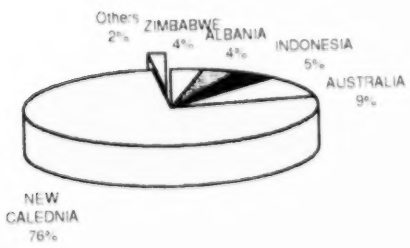
Total World Export: 137 000 MT

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Exporters, 1993



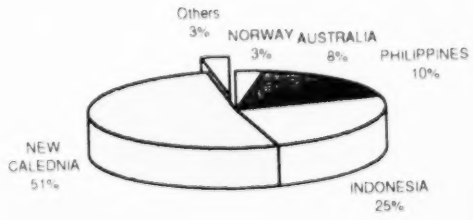
Total World Export: 94 000 MT

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Importers, 1970

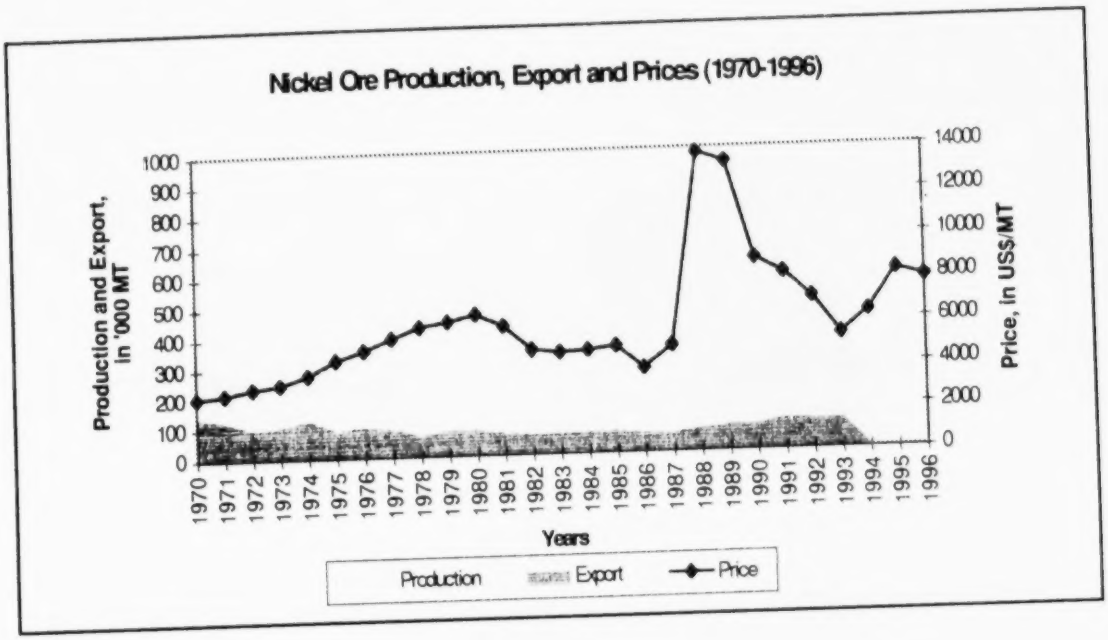


Total World Import: 137 000 MT

% Share of Principal Nickel Ore Importers, 1993



Total World Import: 94 000 MT

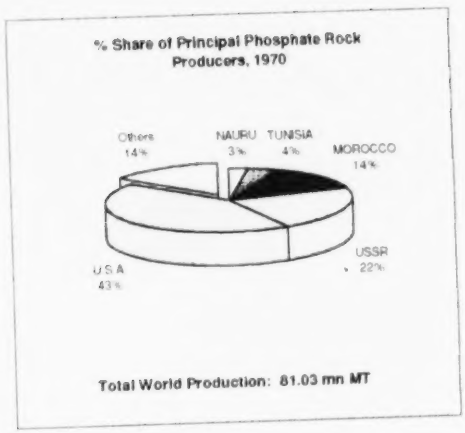


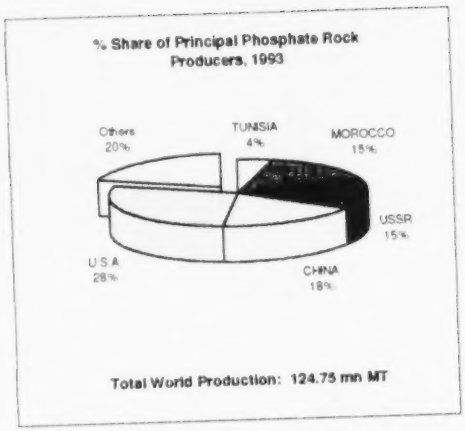
Nickel Ore

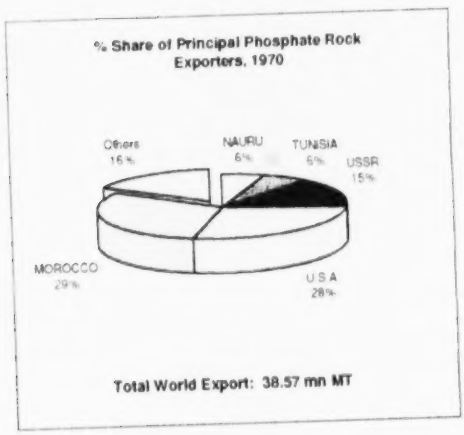
Among the world's top nickel ore **producers**, only New Caledonia reported increased output between 1990 and 1993. It supplies about 12 per cent of the world's nickel ore supply and ranks third to the former Soviet republic and Canada, each of which contributes approximately 23 per cent. Between 1990 and 1993, production yield in the former Soviet republic slowed down at a rate of -6.40 per cent per year; for Canada the reduction rate is estimated at -0.60 per cent. Reflecting the movements of these and other leading producers, global production shrank by 15 per cent between 1990 and 1993. Neither of the top two producers export nickel ore. This makes it possible for New Caledonia, which exports about half of its output, to dominate the export market with a 51 per cent share. Together with Indonesia's 25 per cent share and the Philippines' 10 per cent, the world's top three nickel ore **exporters** supply about 86 per cent of the world 's total nickel ore export.

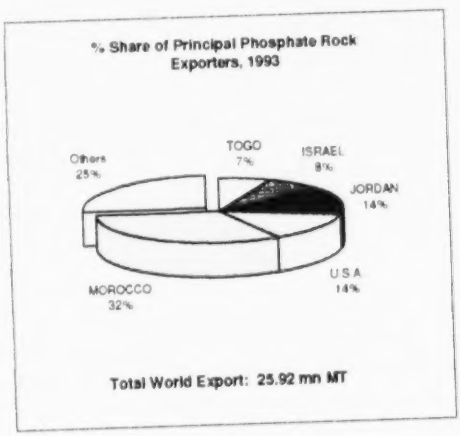
This near-monopoly is even more striking on the import side, with Japan purchasing two-thirds of the nickel ore in the international market. Japan has been reducing its intake of the metal; its 1993 import volume is only about 65 per cent of that twenty-three earlier. Then, it absorbed about 96 per cent of total world imports. The second largest **importer**, Australia, did not register any significant import until the late 1980s, and currently holds a 21 per cent share in the import market. With Finland taking up another 10 per cent, 97 per cent of the world's nickel ore imports are taken up by the three leading importers.

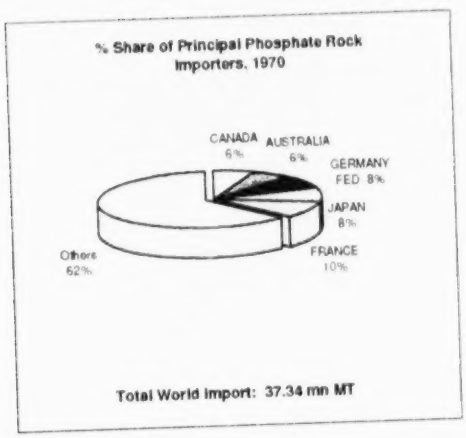
PHOSPHATE ROCK

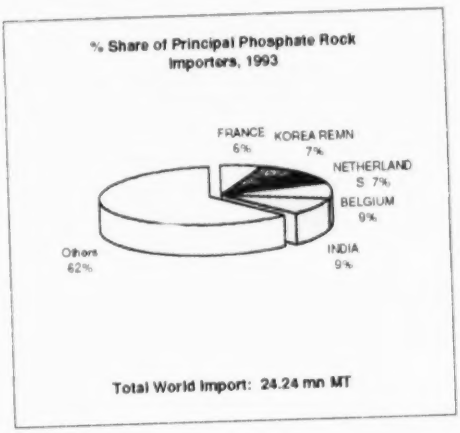


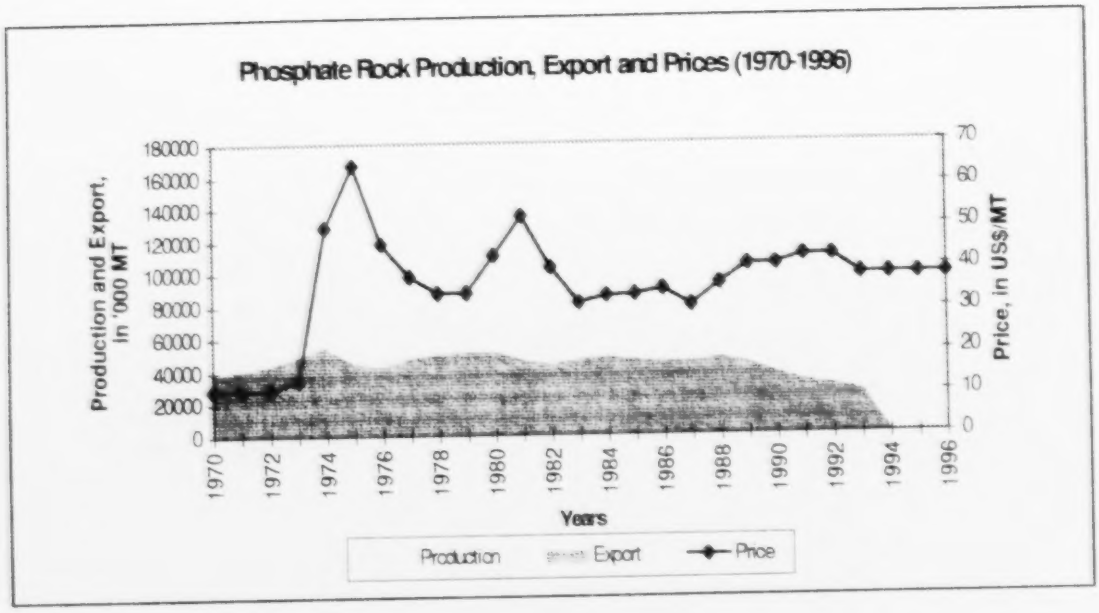










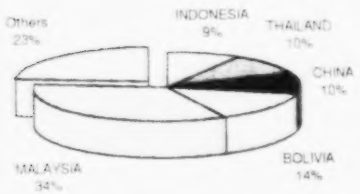


Phosphate Rock

World phosphate rock production has been relatively stable during the twenty years beginning 1970 with an annual rate estimated at 0.82 per cent. A comparison of the average annual rates of the first three years of each decade, however, shows robust growth from 1970-1973, a slight contraction from 1980-1983 followed by a sharp decline from 1990-1993. The world's first and second ranking phosphate rock **producers**, the United States and China, have diverging trends with the former reducing and the latter increasing production volume. In terms of percent share in global production, the proportion attributable to the US has diminished from 43 per cent in 1970 to 28 per cent in 2993, while that of China has grown from 2 per cent to 18 per cent. Other leading phosphate rock productors, namely the CIS, Morocco, and Tunisia, have reported drops in production volume during the first three years of the 1990s. Of the five leading producers, only Morocco and the United States are among the top five **exporters** with market shares of 32 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively. Morocco's production level is only about half of the United States, but it exports 46 per cent of its output while the United States trades out only 10 per cent. About 75 per cent of the world's phosphate rock exports come from Morocco, the United Sates, Jordan, Israel and Togo. The receiving side is not as concentrated, the top five leading **importers** only accounting for about 40 per cent of the market. Neither is there a singular dominating force among these players, with market shares ranging from 10 per cent for India to 6 per cent for France. Except for Republic of Republic of Korea which reported a relatively flat growth rate of 0.78 per cent per year between 1990 and 1993, all top ten importers have been reducing imports in recent years. Global import decline during the period is estimated at -5.71 per cent per annum.

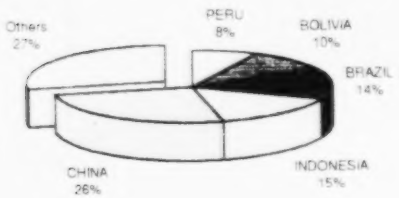
TIN METAL

% Share of Principal Tin Metal Producers, 1970



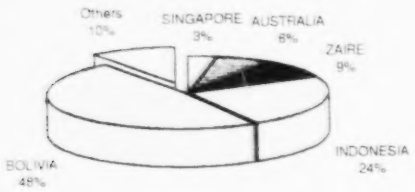
Total World Production: 217 000 MT

% Share of Principal Tin Metal Producers, 1993



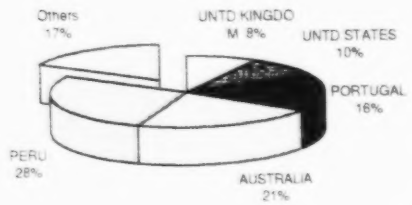
Total World Production: 190 000 MT

% Share of Principal Tin Ore Exporters, 1970



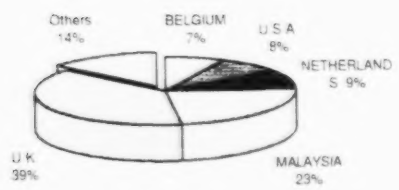
Total World Export: 57 000 MT

% Share of Principal Tin Ore Exporters, 1993



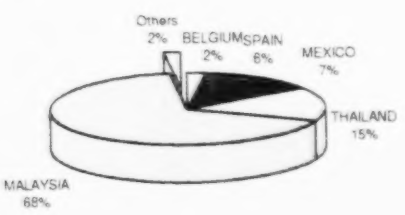
Total World Export: 38 000 MT

% Share of Principal Tin Metal Importers, 1970

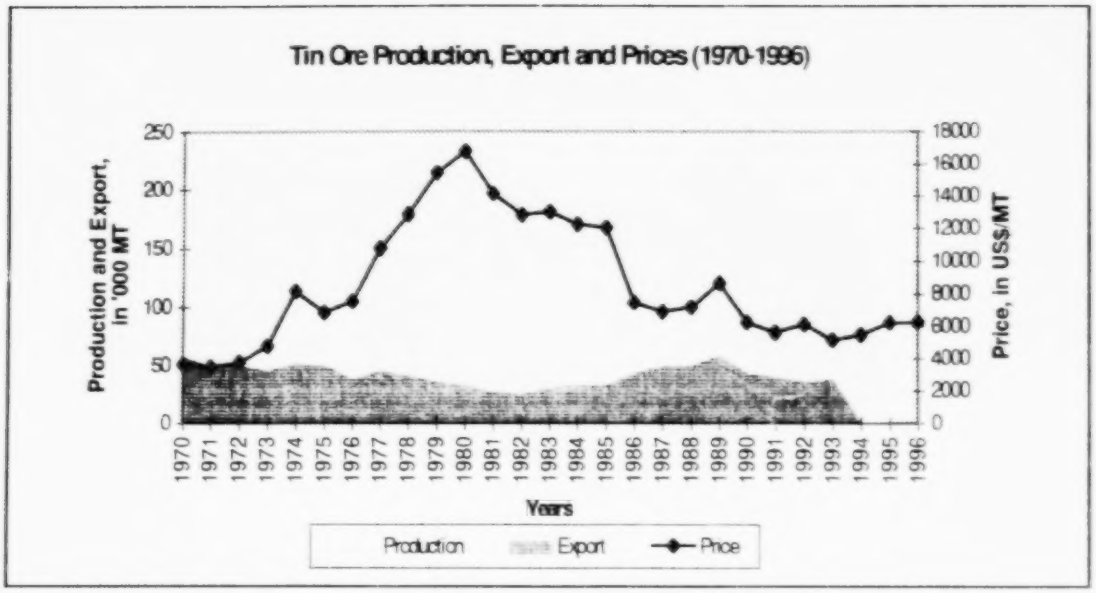


Total World Import: 59 000 MT

% Share of Principal Tin Metal Importers, 1993



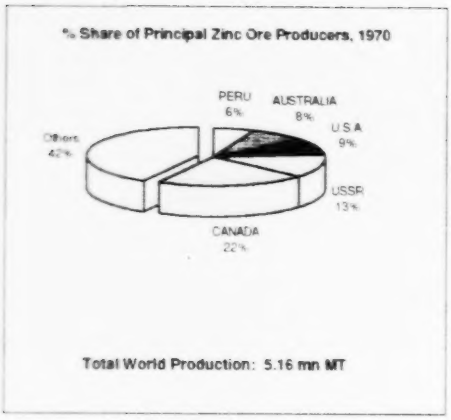
Total World Import: 41 000 MT

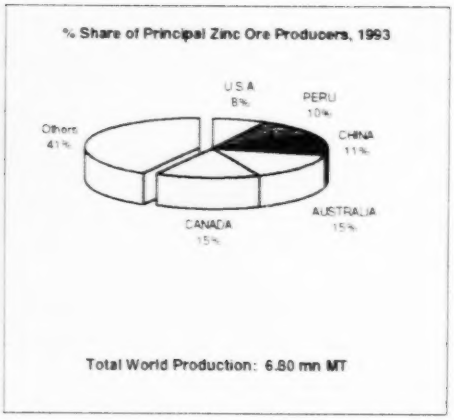


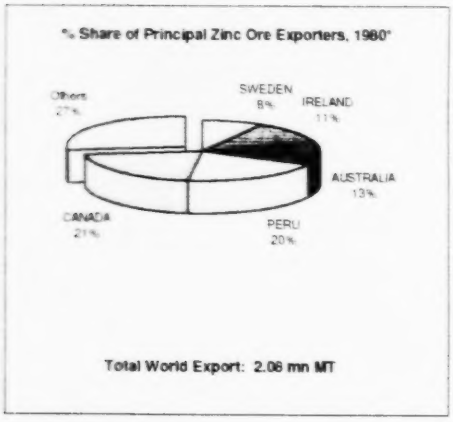
Tin Ore

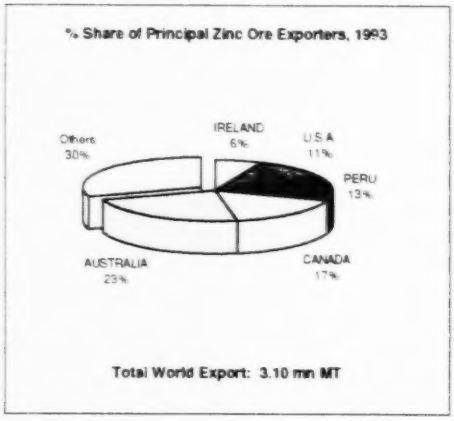
The global tin ore production for 1993 was 12 per cent lesser in volume than it was twenty-three years earlier; then, a third of the world's tin ore was produced in Malaysia with Bolivia, China and Indonesia contributing 14 per cent, 10 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively. Malaysia has since ceased being the world's largest tin producer to become the world's largest tin importer in 1993. With Bolivia decreasing production at an annual average of -0.90 per cent since 1970, China and Indonesia are currently the world's first and second most important tin ore **producers**. Other important producers are Brazil and Peru, which have been increasing production at an average rate of 3.84 per cent and 9.83 per cent per annum between 1970 and 1993. Among the five principal tin ore producers, only Peru is also one of the world's top five tin ore **exporters**. Compared to China's 4 per cent, Peru exports about 72 per cent of its production and holds a 27 per cent share in the export market. Australia ranks second with a 21 per cent share, followed by Portugal, the United States and the United Kingdom. Fully two-thirds of tin metal traded in the world market is purchased by Malaysia; Thailand comes in a distant second with a 15 per cent share. Mexico, Spain and China complete the roster of top five **importers**, and together they take up all but 2 per cent of the tin metal in the international market.

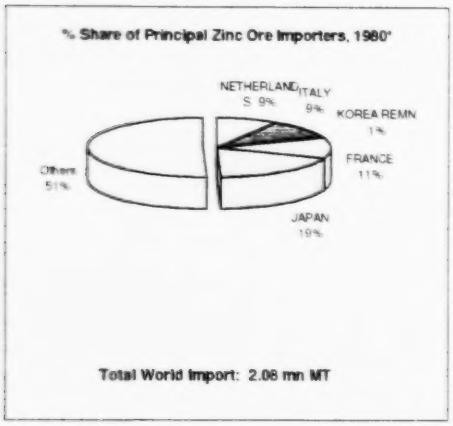
ZINC ORE

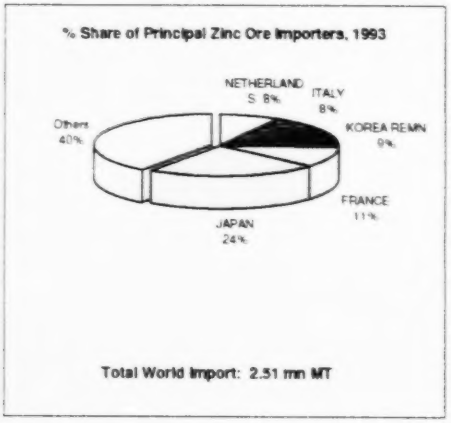

% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Producers, 1970
PERU 6%
AUSTRALIA 8%
U.S.A 9%
USSR 13%
CANADA 22%
Others 42%
Total World Production: 5.16 mn MT

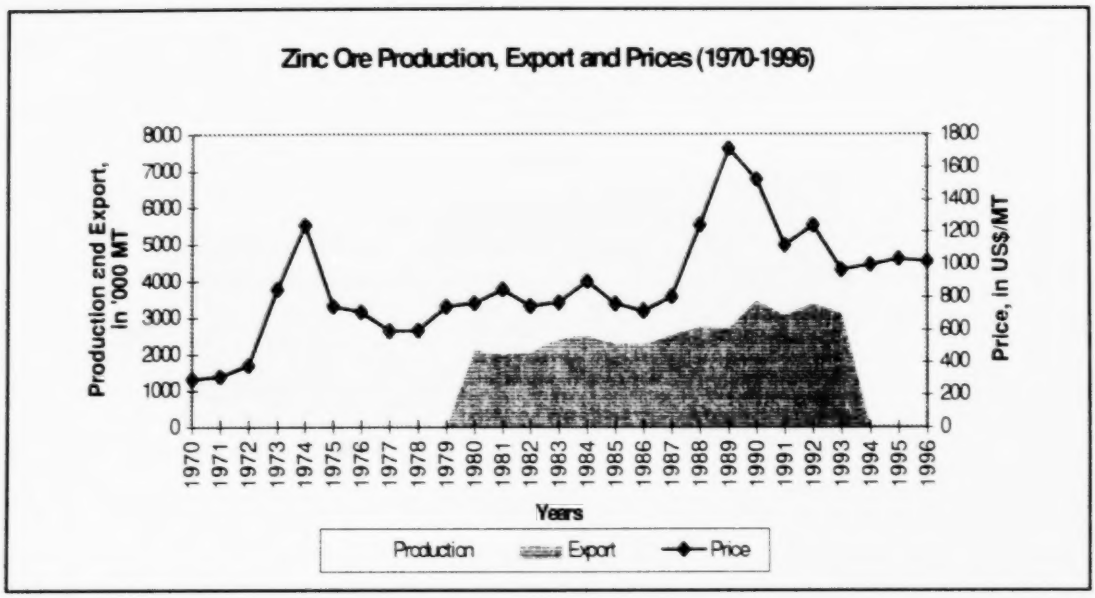

% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Producers, 1993
U.S.A 8%
PERU 10%
CHINA 11%
AUSTRALIA 15%
CANADA 15%
Others 41%
Total World Production: 6.80 mn MT


% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Exporters, 1980*
SWEDEN 8%
IRELAND 11%
AUSTRALIA 13%
PERU 20%
CANADA 21%
Others 27%
Total World Export: 2.08 mn MT


% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Exporters, 1993
IRELAND 6%
U.S.A 11%
PERU 13%
CANADA 17%
AUSTRALIA 23%
Others 30%
Total World Export: 3.10 mn MT


% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Importers, 1980*
NETHERLAND S. 9%
ITALY 9%
KOREA REMN 1%
FRANCE 11%
JAPAN 19%
Others 51%
Total World Import: 2.08 mn MT


% Share of Principal Zinc Ore Importers, 1993
NETHERLAND S. 8%
ITALY 8%
KOREA REMN 9%
FRANCE 11%
JAPAN 24%
Others 40%
Total World Import: 2.31 mn MT



Zinc Ore

With an annual growth averaging barely half a percentage point, 1993 global zinc ore production was 32 per cent more than it was in 1970. Recent production boom in China has somewhat offset output declines in the world's leading **producer**, Canada, such that global output declined only an average -0.47 per cent per year between 1990 and 1993 averaged -0.47 per cent. Over the period between 1970 and 1993, China's output has been growing at about 4.04 per cent per year, while Canada's contracted at -0.23 per cent and second-place Australia, for which output is almost match that of Canada's, averaged 1.66 per cent growth per year. China, however, is not a major exporter because it markets abroad only about 8 per cent of its produce. Between 1990 and 1993, global zinc ore export volume shranked by 10 per cent, with the 1.74 per cent annual growth in the world's largest **exporter**, Australia, being offset by massive constriction of -10.34 per cent per year in Canada. Other principal exporters display diverging trends, with Peru tending towards reductions and the United States reporting strong growth. Even though the import intake of the world's principal zinc ore **importer**, Japan, was stable during 1990-1993, global trade has declined by -3.47 per cent per year during this period due to reductions not only among leading importers but other less buyers as well. It should be noted, however, that Spain which ranks sixth among the world's importers, has been increasing its volume at an annual average of 15.26 per cent during this period.